



United States Attorney Nick Hanna, right, is joined by other law enforcement authorities during a news conference in Los Angeles on Monday, April 29, 2019.

Associated Press

Police, FBI thwart Army veteran's plan to bomb Nazi rally

By BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An Army veteran who converted to Islam and discussed launching various terror attacks throughout Southern California was arrested as he plotted to bomb a white supremacist rally as retribu-

tion for the New Zealand mosque attacks, federal prosecutors said Monday. Mark Domingo, an infantryman who served a combat stint in Afghanistan, was arrested Friday after visiting a park in Long Beach where authorities said he planned to plant home-made ex-

plosive devices made with nail-filled pressure cookers in advance of a Nazi rally scheduled Sunday.

Domingo, 26, was arrested on a charge of providing material support to terrorists. A criminal complaint said he had been planning since March to "manufac-

ture and use a weapon of mass destruction in order to commit mass murder."

U.S. Attorney Nick Hanna told a news conference that Domingo supported violent jihad and spoke about becoming a martyr and of pledging allegiance to the Islamic State group if

it established a presence in the United States.

"This is a case in which law enforcement was able to identify a man consumed with hate and bent on mass murder, and stop him before he could carry out his attack," Hanna said.

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BYU student comes out as gay in valedictorian speech

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST
SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A student who came out as gay during a valedictorian speech at Mormon-owned Brigham Young University has drawn praise from fellow students and notable figures such as Kristin Chenoweth and the husband of Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg. Matt Easton, 24, said Monday he hopes his decision helps ease loneliness felt by other LGBTQ students at the institution where an honor code forbids dating among members of the same sex.



Matt Easton poses for a photograph as he sits in a park Monday, April 29, 2019, in Cottonwood Heights, Utah.

"I hope they can know they're not alone in the ways that sometimes I've felt alone at BYU, to know there's support for them and they're not broken," he

said. It could also show other members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints the success that LGBTQ members can achieve, he said. "We deserve to have our voices be heard," Easton said. The political science major said only a few people

knew about his sexual orientation before Friday, when he spoke the words, "I am proud to be a gay son of God" in a speech pre-approved by college officials. Video of the speech post-

ed online sparked accolades from Chenoweth, who tweeted her love and support as a straight Christian woman and Chasten Buttigieg, who responded with "Bravo!" The church has a doctrinal opposition to same-sex marriage and intimacy, though the faith has gradually adopted a more compassionate stance. It said in 2016 that homosexuality itself is not a sin, and LGBTQ members have a valued place. This month, the church reversed policies banning baptisms for children of gay parents. Advocates had called the policies demeaning and hurtful. At BYU, hundreds of students rallied April 12, calling on officials to be more compassionate with violations of the honor code, which also bans drinking and premarital sex. □

Associated Press

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Former bank worker in Alaska sentenced in theft of \$4.3M

By DAN JOLING
Associated Press
ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A daring Alaska bank employee who boxed up \$4.3 million in cash, rolled it to his car and flew it to Seattle was sentenced Monday to 10 years in prison for bank theft. Gerardo Valenzuela, 34, also known as Gary Caza- rez, was sentenced in federal court after pleading guilty in January. U.S. District Judge Timothy Burgess gave him no credit for the seven years he served in a Mexico prison after his conviction there for smuggling cash, guns and ammunition, U.S. prosecutors said.

Valenzuela was extradited to Alaska in September. He was 26 in 2011 when he worked as a cash vault services manager for Key-Bank in Anchorage. At the time of the theft, investigators said, he was worried that the bank was going to make his job obsolete and he could be terminated. In the week before the theft, he bought an airline ticket for his girlfriend to fly to Seattle and then stole \$30,000 from Keybank, using \$24,000 to reserve a private jet. Bank policy called for having dual controls over the vault, but Valenzuela ignored the rule while training new employees, pros-

ecutors said. On the day of the theft, a Friday, he told the branch manager he was going to organize an ice cream social for bank customers and would stay late to clean up. Late that night, without dual controls in place, Valenzuela was able to enter the vault, take the cash and board the private plane to Seattle, authorities said. He set the timer on the vault lock for the maximum time allowed, giving himself six days to escape. In Seattle, he bought a car and an AK-47 rifle then drove with his girlfriend to Mexico. □



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POLICE, NAZI

Continued from Front

"The criminal case outlines a chilling terrorism plot that developed over the past two months and targeted innocent Americans that he expected to gather this past weekend."

Investigators said Domingo posted an online message March 3 that said "America needs another Vegas event," an apparent reference to the 2017 mass shooting that killed 59. He allegedly said it would spark civil unrest to weaken "America by giving them a taste of the terror they gladly spread all over the world."

After Domingo began to discuss seeking revenge for the March 15 attacks that killed 50 people at New Zealand mosques, a confidential source who has worked with the FBI since 2013 began chatting with him about his plans.

Domingo said he had an assault rifle, semi-automatic rifle and several magazines of ammunition. He discussed picking off Jews walking to synagogue, shooting police officers or attacking a church or military base, according to investigators.

When the source asked him how he planned to carry out violence without getting caught, court records said Domingo replied: "Martyrdom, bro."

He also allegedly discussed killing a neighbor he was upset with as a prelude to broader violence and later contemplated bombing the Santa Monica Pier, where he said a summer attack on the crowded tourist spot would maximize casualties because people

wouldn't be able to escape the blast in the enclosed space.

Eventually, he settled on the idea of planting an improvised explosive device that would be remotely triggered or detonated by a timer at a white supremacist event, investigators said. The confidential source connected him with a purported bomb maker who was actually an undercover police officer.

Domingo bought 8 pounds (3.6 kilograms) of nails long enough to puncture internal organs and provided them to the bomb maker, though the resulting contraption contained only inert materials, authorities said.

If he survived the planned bombing, Domingo allegedly discussed launching further attacks on the Long Beach Port or on a train.

The plot was thwarted just two days ahead of the event, investigators said, when an FBI SWAT team arrested Domingo after he was given the pressure cookers and surveyed Bluff Park in Long Beach, where the rally was supposed to happen.

White nationalists, however, never showed up at the park Sunday. Instead, a large group of counter protesters demonstrated for peace.

Phone and email messages seeking comment from the public defender representing Domingo were not immediately returned. A voicemail left at a phone number listed for Domingo was not returned.

Domingo is believed to have acted alone and authorities said the public was not at risk. After Domingo

was identified online by the FBI, he was under surveillance around the clock, said Ryan Young, the FBI special agent in charge of counter terrorism at the Los Angeles office.

"Our biggest fear is this was a rapid what we call 'radicalization to mobilization to violence,'" Young said. "Sometimes we get asked 'What keeps you up at night?' This is a case that keeps us up at night."

While Domingo had appeared committed to carry out the plot, court papers portray him as suddenly reluctant as the bomb plot came together.

He told the others he thought were his confederates they should consider postponing so he could finish reading the Quran and experience the Muslim holy month of Ramadan beginning in May.

Last Wednesday, he told



FBI Special Agent Ryan Young, center, is flanked by United States Attorney Nick Hanna, left, and LAPD Chief Michel Moore during a news conference in Los Angeles on Monday, April 29, 2019.

Associated Press

the confidential source he wanted to think about it for a night.

"Let's just sleep on it," he said, according to court papers. "If we're still as motivated ... I'll give the go-ahead."

The next day he sent a message to the supposed

bomb maker that the plan was on. The two referred to the bombs as "presents" they needed to wrap for a party.

"Keep the presents somewhere safe lol," Domingo wrote back Friday morning before making plans to meet that night. □



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Rod Rosenstein submits letter of resignation to Trump

By ERIC TUCKER and MICHAEL BALSAMO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein submitted his resignation Monday, ending a two-year run defined by his appointment of a special counsel to investigate connections between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and Russia. His last day will be May 11.

Rosenstein's departure had been expected following the confirmation of William Barr as attorney general. The White House nominated a replacement for the department's No. 2 slot weeks ago.

In his resignation letter to Trump, Rosenstein paid tribute to Trump, even praising the president's sense of humor, despite being the subject of some of Trump's most biting jabs. Trump once retweeted an image that showed Rosenstein and other officials jailed for treason.

Rosenstein intended to leave around mid-March but stayed on for the completion of special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation. Mueller last month submitted his report to the Justice Department, and Rosenstein was part of a small group of department officials who reviewed the document and helped shape its public release. After Mueller didn't reach a conclusion on whether Trump had obstructed the investigation, Barr and Rosenstein stepped in and determined the evidence wasn't enough to support such an allegation.

Rosenstein appointed Mueller in May 2017 following the recusal of then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions and oversaw much of his work. His exit leaves the department without the official most closely aligned



In this Feb. 25, 2019, file photo, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein speaks at a Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) event on the rule of law in Washington. Rosenstein has submitted a letter of resignation to President Donald Trump. It's effective May 11.

Associated Press

with the probe as officials grapple with public and congressional scrutiny of the special counsel's findings and the department's handling of the report.

He not only supervised Mueller's work for much of the last two years but also defended the investigation against attacks from congressional Republicans and Trump, who has blasted the probe as a "witch hunt." In so doing, Rosenstein sometimes found himself at odds with Trump. He was nonetheless spared the brunt of anger directed at Sessions, whose recusal from the Russia investigation infuriated the president, leading to his forced resignation last November.

As deputy, Rosenstein was a central character in some of the most consequential, even chaotic, moments of the Trump administration. He wrote a memo criticizing James Comey that the White House used as justification for the firing of the FBI director, then a week

later appointed Mueller to investigate the Trump campaign's ties to Russia. That investigation swiftly grew to include whether the firing of Comey constituted obstruction of justice.

Integral to the start of the investigation, Rosenstein was also present for the very end, standing silently on stage behind Barr two weeks ago when the attorney general cleared the president of obstruction, praised the president's cooperation with the investigation and maintained several times that there had been no collusion between the campaign and Russia.

In his resignation letter, Rosenstein said most deputies stay in their post for about 16 months; Rosenstein will have served about two years.

"I am grateful to you for the opportunity to serve; for the courtesy and humor you often display in our personal conversations; and for the goals you set in your inau-

gural address: patriotism, unity, safety, education, and prosperity, because 'a nation exists to serve its citizens,'" Rosenstein wrote.

The deputy attorney general position is a hugely significant job, responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Justice Department and the work of United States attorneys across the country. Trump has nominated Deputy Transportation Secretary Jeffrey Rosen as Rosenstein's replacement.

Though Rosenstein's exit was orderly, his relationship with the president had waffled over time. His job status appeared perilous last September following news reports that he had discussed secretly recording Trump and invoking a constitutional amendment to remove him from office. He hung on for several more months and appeared to turn the page, at least publicly, after a private meeting with Trump aboard Air Force One.

Rosenstein appointed Mueller after Sessions, who ordinarily would have overseen the investigation, recused himself in March 2017 because of his close involvement in the Trump campaign. The appointment came one week after Trump fired Comey, an action Rosenstein laid the groundwork for by writing a memo that sharply criticized Comey's handling of the Hillary Clinton email investigation.

The White House initially cited the memo as justification for the firing, but Trump has said he was thinking of "this Russia thing" when he fired Comey.

Over the next two years, with Sessions recused from the Russia investigation, Rosenstein set the boundaries of Mueller's investigation, approved investigative steps and, in place of the rarely seen special counsel, twice announced criminal indictments from the Justice Department podium against Russians accused of election interference.

The investigation overshadowed the rest of Rosenstein's work even as he joined Sessions in talking up the president's agenda, including announcements on combating violent crime and opioid addiction.

Rosenstein endured in the job beyond Sessions, but there were moments when his position appeared in the balance.

Trump lamented to The New York Times in July 2017 that "there are very few Republicans in Baltimore," a reference to Rosenstein's prior job as the U.S. attorney in Maryland. Rosenstein was appointed to that position by Republican President George W. Bush and remained for the entire Obama administration. □

Illinois governor OKs first steps on blocking Asian carp

By JOHN FLESHER

AP Environmental Writer
TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP)

— Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker says he is willing to take initial steps toward fortifying a lock-and-dam system on a Chicago-area waterway so it can protect Lake Michigan from invasive Asian carp.

Pritzker, a Democrat, told the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in a letter Friday that he had authorized the state's cooperation with preconstruction, engineering and design work at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam near Joliet, Illinois. But he voiced misgivings about the cost and said his state "is not in a financial position to commit to the full plan in its current form."

The Corps has proposed installing devices such as an electric barrier, noisemakers and an air bubble curtain in a specially designed channel to deter fish from swimming upstream and remove those that don't turn back. The adjacent lock would be retooled to flush away unwanted species floating on the water. An updated version of the plan released last November put the price tag at \$778 million, which was much higher than an earlier \$275 million estimate. That drew criticism from Illinois, which agreed last year to serve as "non-federal sponsor" of the project.

"I would like to discuss how we can lower the cost of this plan and still effectively address the threat of Asian carp," Pritzker said. "I will not



In this June 13, 2012, file photo, Asian carp, jolted by an electric current from a research boat, jump from the Illinois River near Havana, Ill.

Associated Press

sign a Project Partnership Agreement without a cost control strategy and additional cost sharing among the states."

Corps spokeswoman Samantha Heilig said Monday that Pritzker's letter was forwarded to the agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C., where a final report on the project awaits approval from the chief of engineers.

The Brandon Road complex is on the Des Plaines River, which is part of a waterway network that links Lake Michigan with the Illinois River. The Illinois River is infested with several varieties

of Asian carp, which were imported decades ago to cleanse Southern sewage lagoons and fish farms but escaped into the Mississippi River and invaded many of its tributaries.

Scientists say if the Asian carp becomes established in the Great Lakes, it could unravel food chains and out-compete native species.

Environmentalists and some states, including Michigan, have called for walling off Lake Michigan from the Chicago waterway system, which Illinois opposes as disruptive to commercial navigation. The Brandon

Road project is considered a compromise.

Former Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder proposed a partnership last year to help cover costs of operating and maintaining the Brandon Road structures, drawing support from Ohio, Wisconsin, the Canadian province of Ontario and Chicago. But former Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner rejected fellow Republican Snyder's offer of \$8 million in support of the arrangement, saying he didn't want to commit to the deal in the final days of his term.

Snyder's successor, Demo-

cratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, is willing to make good on his proposal and appreciates Pritzker's decision to move forward, spokesman Ed Golder of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources said Monday.

Illinois Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, both Democrats, supported Pritzker's position in a statement and agreed other Great Lakes states should share the costs.

"Invasive Asian carp are a serious threat to the Great Lakes ecosystem and the region's economy," they said. □

Gov. Cuomo signs offshore drilling ban into law

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Gov. Andrew Cuomo has signed into law a new ban on drilling for oil and gas off the New York coast.

The Democrat was joined by musician Billy Joel for a bill signing Monday on Long Island.

Members of the Democrat-led state Legislature passed

the ban earlier this year following the Trump administration's proposal to open up more coastal areas to drilling.

Specifically, the ban would bar state permits for drilling or oil or gas exploration in offshore areas controlled by the state.

That would make it much

more difficult for any drilling to occur close to coastal New York, even in waters controlled by the federal government.

Opponents to drilling off the Long Island coast say it would put the local environment, water quality and human health at risk. □

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Ethane storage seen as key to revitalization of Appalachia



This April 18, 2019 file photo shows part of a petrochemical plant being built on the banks of the Ohio River in Monaca, Pa., for the Royal Dutch Shell company.

Associated Press

By **MARK GILLISPIE**
Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Plans are underway in Appalachia to create two underground facilities to store ethane, a byproduct of natural gas drilling seen as integral to revitalizing a region still struggling from the loss of industrial and manufacturing jobs decades ago.

Experts say the availability of storage facilities will help the tristate region of eastern Ohio, southwestern Pennsylvania and northern West Virginia attract petrochemical plants that turn ethane into raw plastic and, the hope is, attract manufacturing companies to make products ubiquitous to modern life.

Energy Storage Ventures is awaiting approval of state permits to construct an underground facility to store ethane and other natural gas liquids, said David Hooker, the Colorado-based company's president.

Meanwhile, Appalachia Development Group in Charleston, West Virginia, wants to build a much larg-

er storage facility somewhere in the tristate region. Company President and CEO Steven Hedrick said the creation of a petrochemical and plastics industry could lead to billions of dollars in investment and tens of thousands of jobs in the coming years.

"The people of Appalachia deserve this opportunity," Hedrick said.

Technological advances in hydraulic fracturing, better known as fracking, have helped fuel an oil and gas boom in Appalachia and southwest states like Texas. It has also provided an abundant supply of ethane that is driving the expansion of the petrochemical industry in its epicenter along the Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana, where most ethane storage also is located. Ethane is a gas when brought to the surface along with methane, the far more abundant "dry" natural gas used to cook our food and heat our homes. Ethane is colorless, odorless and, like methane, highly combustible. It becomes a liquid when super-cooled at processing plants called

fractionators that separate out other natural gas liquids. While most ethane produced today is shipped out of the region via pipelines, a portion is "rejected" and winds up in the natural gas stream.

"Cooking eggs with ethane in the morning is like cooking eggs with hundred-dollar bills," Hedrick said, paraphrasing U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry. "It gets the job done, but it doesn't make sense."

Industry experts say there is enough potential ethane production in Appalachia's Utica and Marcellus shale fields to supply four or five petrochemical plants in the region. They also say underground storage is vital to providing an uninterrupted supply to those plants.

"When you look at the ethane market that is developing, I just can't imagine those plants operating without storage in that market," Energy Storage Ventures' David Hooker said.

Energy Storage Ventures' subsidiary, Mountaineer NGL Storage, hopes to begin construction along the Ohio River as early as this

summer. Hooker said initial plans call for building a facility capable of storing 1.5 million barrels of natural gas liquids, primarily ethane but also propane and butane. The company will use fresh water to carve out space in a salt formation more than 6,500 feet (1,980 meters) underground.

Resulting brine water from construction will be transported across the Ohio River via pipeline for use at an alkaline plant in West Virginia, Hooker said.

Appalachia Development Group is considering sites in the region for its Appalachia Storage Hub and Trading Facility, which Hedrick said would be capable of storing 10 million barrels of natural gas liquids.

Hooker said the cost of his project is estimated at \$150 million and is fully financed. The estimated cost of the Appalachia Development Group's storage facility is \$3.4 billion, which Hedrick attributes to aboveground expenses, such as building pipelines.

Appalachia Development Group is seeking \$1.9 billion in federal loan guarantees

for its project.

The first signs of the emergent ethane petrochemical industry are clearly visible northwest of Pittsburgh, near Monaca, Pennsylvania, where thousands of workers are building an ethane "cracker" plant for Royal Dutch Shell capable of producing 1.6 million tons (1.45 million metric tons) of raw plastic annually. The plant's ethane supply will come from Shell's own pipeline system connected to processing facilities in Ohio and Pennsylvania, negating the need for bulk storage.

Petrochemical plants without those resources will need ready access to ethane stored underground, according to experts. That includes a much anticipated cracker plant for ethane conversion that a partnership between two Asian companies is considering building in eastern Ohio's Belmont County. The partnership between Thailand's PTT Global Chemical and South Korea's Daelim Industrial has received clean air and water permits from the state but hasn't fully committed to construction, despite having already spent more than \$100 million on planning, according to partnership spokesman Dan Williamson.

Industry analysts and backers of the two storage hubs say the availability of ethane storage and the decision whether to build the plant are intertwined.

"To me, the key is PTT Global," Hooker said, adding that he "can't imagine" the plant operating without ethane storage. He said he's had conversations with PTT-Daelim.

Appalachia Development Group's Hedrick agrees with Hooker's assessment. Without the PTT-Daelim partnership or another regional petrochemical plant, Hedrick said his storage facility project probably won't be viable.

"The two go hand in glove," Hedrick said. "We need both at the same time. Without customers, it's awfully hard to make a business case." □

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Official: 3 dead in helicopter crash in Honolulu suburb

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLER
HER

Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Fire and helicopter parts rained from the sky Monday in a suburban Honolulu community as a tour helicopter crashed and killed all three people aboard, officials and witnesses said.

"All you could see was fire," witness Melissa Solomon said, explaining that she was driving on the street when she looked up to see flames and a helicopter plummeting in front of her. She said she had turned onto another street because she was afraid more pieces were going to fall from the sky onto her and her 16-year-old daughter sitting in the front passenger seat. "We could have been smashed by it," she said. Paramedics responding to an unrelated call from a patient with leg pain about 30 yards (27 meters) away heard "a horrific bang," said Shayne Enright, a spokeswoman for Honolulu Emergency Medical Services. When they turned around, they saw a helicopter on fire.

"When they got there,

neighbors were doing a heroic job trying to put out the fire and also trying to get the patients away from the burning aircraft," Enright said.

The crash occurred in Kailua, a town of 50,000 people about a 30-minute drive from downtown Honolulu.

The crash site was on a two-lane road amid one and two-story homes.

Darel Robinson was doing construction work at a house about a half-mile from the crash site when he heard what sounded like helicopter blades thumping and then a loud boom. "It was going nose down and parts were starting to fly off," he said.

Megan Lacy of Alabama was visiting friends when they heard the crash. They went outside, expecting to find two cars after they had hit each other.

"We were really confused," she said. "And then we heard screaming and the word 'fire,' and I saw smoke," she said. Debris damaged her rental car about 100 yards (90 meters) from the crash.

A resident said he heard the morning crash then saw

a ball of fire in a road when he ran from his house.

Leleo Knappenberger told Hawaii News Now that his mother heard the helicopter flying over the house, making a strange noise.

He said he later saw what appeared to be the tail end of the helicopter.

"It's all smashed to pieces," he said.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor said the agency believes three people were on board the four-seat, Robinson R44 aircraft.

He said the circumstances of the crash were unknown. No further details were available on those killed.

The helicopter, which was built in 2000, is registered to United Helicopter Leasing LLC of Honolulu, according to FAA records. State business records show Nicole Vandelaar as the manager.

A woman who answered the phone at the business and identified herself as Nicole declined to immediately comment, saying she was too busy to talk.

A website for the Honolulu tour helicopter company Novictor Helicopters iden-



The wreckage of a helicopter lies on the street after crashing in Kailua, Hawaii, Monday, April 29, 2019.

Associated Press

tified Nicole Vandelaar as founder and CEO. The website said she is an expert pilot commercially licensed to fly helicopters and airplanes.

A Novictor helicopter crashed on a sandbar in Kaneohe in October after the pilot lost consciousness twice. That crash resulted in injuries to the pilot and two passengers. It was also a Robinson R44 aircraft.

State Rep. Cynthia Thielen, who represents Kailua, said she wants the FAA to prohibit tour flights over Hawaii's residential areas and national parks. The Re-

publican lawmaker wants Hawaii's congressional delegation to ask the FAA to implement such restrictions. Thielen also called for tour helicopter flights to be grounded until an investigation into the crash is completed.

Kailua is home to a Marine Corps base. In recent years it's become a popular destination for tourists to go to the beach, hike and shop. Former President Barack Obama stayed at a rented beachfront vacation home in the town during the winter holidays when he was in the White House. □

Texas death row inmate's last words draw ire from lawmaker

By PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Texas lawmaker whose ire over a death row inmate's expansive final feast in 2011 ended the practice of condemned prisoners choosing their last meal said Monday the state should now stop

publicly reading the final statements of those who are executed.

It comes after a Texas prison spokesman last week read the last words of an avowed racist, John William King, who orchestrated one of the most gruesome hate crimes in U.S.

history.

King, who was white, was executed for the 1998 dragging death of James Byrd Jr., a black man. King said "no" when asked by a warden inside the nation's busiest death chamber whether he had any last words before receiving a

lethal injection. But a statement prepared by King was released following his execution.

"If a death row inmate has something to say to the public or victims, let him or her say it when they are strapped to the gurney," state Sen. John Whitmire

wrote in a letter to prison officials.

A spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice didn't respond to a request for comment Monday.

Lawrence Russell Brewer ordered an extensive final meal in 2011. □

Far-right in Spain sweeps town with anti-migrant message

By RENATA BRITO
JOSEPH WILSON
Associated Press

EL EJIDO, Spain (AP) — Surrounded by miles of greenhouses where migrant workers grow fruit and vegetables for the rest of Europe, this sleepy town on the sunbaked Mediterranean coast has become a beachhead for the arrival of the far-right in Spain, the latest country to be hit by the wave of nationalist populism sweeping the continent.

El Ejido was where the upstart far-right Vox party made its most impressive gains during Sunday's national elections, with its promises to defend Spain's unity and quash the separatist push in northeastern Catalonia, while also railing against the women's movement and animal-rights activists who want to ban traditional Spanish bull-fighting.

That message helped power Vox to 10% of the vote nationwide, giving Spain's parliament its first lawmakers from the extreme right since the 1980s.

But it was in El Ejido, a town of some 85,000 residents with a large number of overseas workers key to its agriculture industry, that



In this Saturday, March 2, 2019 photo, a Moroccan worker collects tomatoes in a greenhouse in El Ejido, a municipality of Almeria province, in the autonomous community of Andalusia, Spain.

Associated Press

Vox struck its biggest victory with another of its banner causes: halting illegal immigration. In El Ejido 30 percent of the vote went to Vox, making the party the biggest victor in town.

The day after the election there were no Spanish flags hanging from the balconies of the town's white-and-pastel-colored buildings, and no gatherings in its public squares. There was no sign of campaigning anywhere as residents

of European and African descent strolled along its clean, tree-lined streets.

There was, however, an undercurrent of the populist anger that has helped catapult the far-right to election victories in Italy, Austria and Hungary.

Juan José Bonilla, a lawyer and farmer who grows zucchini in the greenhouses known locally as the Sea of Plastic that blanket the surrounding Almeria region, is Vox's candidate in El Ejido

for May 26 local elections to be held across Spain. On Monday, Bonilla celebrated Vox's victory with a cake in the party's bright-green color decorated with a photo of himself and one of the party's national heavyweights.

While also mentioning his concern over the risk the Catalan separatists represent to Spanish national unity, Bonilla said it was Vox's stance on immigration that drove the party's

cause in his town.

"People want serious and strong steps to be taken to fight against illegal immigration," Bonilla told The Associated Press. Traditional parties "have not known how to solve the territorial question (of Catalonia) nor immigration or the high taxes Spaniards are subject to."

Juan Barón, a 41-year-old taxi driver who also has worked harvesting greenhouse tomatoes, said he voted for Vox because he believes migrants who work for lower wages are unfair competition.

The government "helps the migrants more than people that are from here," Barón asserted, repeating a largely unsubstantiated claim often heard from the anti-migrant right that migrants get more public assistance than native Spaniards. Vox won 24 seats in the 350-seat Congress of Deputies, the lower house of Spain's parliament, making it the fifth-leading power in Spanish politics. Its gains came largely at the expense of Spain's traditional conservatives, the Popular Party, which suffered its worst ever defeat, plummeting to 66 seats from 137 in 2016 elections. □

Thousands protest replacement of Czech justice minister



Thousands of people take part in a march in the centre of Prague, Monday April 29, 2019, to protest the proposed replacement of the justice minister.

Associated Press

Associated Press










PRAGUE (AP) — Thousands of Czechs are rallying in Prague and elsewhere to protest the proposed replacement of the justice minister.

The protesters said Monday that might compromise the legal system at a time when prosecutors have to decide whether to indict Prime Minister Andrej Babis over alleged fraud involving European Union funds.

Babis denies wrongdoing.

The justice minister has significant control over the prosecution. The minister to be appointed Tuesday is Marie Benesova, a lawyer and adviser to President Milos Zeman, Babis' close ally. Zeman has repeatedly criticized the prosecution.

As a lawmaker, Benesova voted against a police request to strip Babis of parliamentary immunity to face investigation. The protesters and the opposition say Benesova might try to influence his case. A union of judges also expressed doubts about the change. □

<p>ARUBA TOPHOMES REAL ESTATE</p> <p>A.A.R. MEMBER</p> <p>Seroe Blanco 20 Ph. 297 588 9937 Cell. 297 5938867 alex@arubatophomes.com www.arubatophomes.com</p> <p>REAL PEOPLE * REAL SERVICE * REAL ESTATE</p>	<p>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 E</p>  <p>OPPORTUNITY!!</p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Gourmet Kitchen Brand New, Central Location land: 475 m² / 5,113 Ft² Home: 180 m² / 1,937 Ft² Afl 480.000 \$ 270.000</p>	<p>ROOI SANTO 27B</p>  <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, House in a Private Property Land 698 m² / 7513 Ft² plus Guest House in back-yard Afl 500.000 \$ 281.000</p>	<p>ROOI SANTO LAND</p>  <p>UNIQUE!!!</p> <p>Unique!!!! Unique!!!! Private Property LAND Location, Location, Location!!! 1452 m² / 15,630 Ft² Afl 516.912 \$ 290.400</p>	<p>SEROE BLANCO 319</p>  <p>REDUCED</p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Corner Plot Brand New, Central Location land: 796 m² / 8,568 Ft² Home: 177 m² / 1,905 Ft² Afl 533.000 \$ 299.000</p>
<p>TANQUI LEENDERT 139</p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, Fully Furnished Full renewed, Gourmet Kitchen land: 414 m² / 4,456 Ft² Home: 230 m² / 2,476 Ft² Afl 668.000 \$ 375.000</p>	<p>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 K</p>  <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Swimming-pool New, Garage, Fully Furnished land: 472 m² / 5,081 Ft² Home: 140 m² / 1,507 Ft² Afl 693.000 \$ 389.000</p>	<p>PALM BEACH 320</p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, w/guest casita Hotel area, Fully Furnished land: 520 m² / 5,597 Ft² Home: 250 m² / 2,691 Ft² Afl 801.000 \$ 450.000</p>	<p>PARADERA 179 G</p>  <p>3 Houses in One, over 489m² of Land H.1: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m²/1400Ft² H.2: 2Bed - 2Bath; 103m²/1109Ft² H.3: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m²/1400Ft² Afl 850.000 \$ 478.000</p>	<p>BUBALI LAND</p>  <p>14,160 m² / 152,418 Ft² of PRIVATE PROPERTY LAND 2 blocks from Cheng Supermarket & 5 Blocks from Superfood Afl 1.203.600 \$ 676.180</p>

Ban on banana-eating artwork draws ridicule in Poland

By MONIKA SCISLOWSKA

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — A few hundred mostly young people jointly ate bananas outside Warsaw's top national gallery on Monday to protest what they called censorship, after authorities removed artwork there featuring the fruit, saying it was improper.

The protest was called by artists and opposition politicians as part of their action on Facebook and Twitter of posting photos of themselves eating bananas in order to ridicule the ban. The action grew into a show of apparent criticism of the government.



People with bananas demonstrate outside Warsaw's National Museum, Poland, Monday, April 29, 2019, to protest against what they call censorship, after authorities removed an artwork at the museum featuring the fruit, saying it was improper.

Associated Press

The 1973 video "Consumer Art," by prominent artist Na-

talia LL, showing a young woman eating a banana

with great pleasure, was removed from the National Museum in Warsaw last week after the new museum head, Jerzy Miziolek, was summoned to the Ministry of Culture. Miziolek said in an interview with the Onet.pl portal last week that he was "opposed to showing works that could irritate sensitive young people" and suggested some visitors have complained. The work had been in the gallery for many years.

A separate 2005 video by another controversial female artist, Katarzyna Kozyra, showing a woman walking two men on all

fours, dressed as dogs on a lead, was also removed.

On Monday, Miziolek announced that the works would be reinstated, but only until May 6, when the whole modern art gallery is due for reorganization. Miziolek and the Ministry of Culture denied there was any pressure on the museum.

Miziolek, who was appointed to the state-run museum by the right-wing government in November, said Monday he appreciated the role of both artists in Poland's culture, but the gallery's limited space requires "creative changes" to the exhibition. □

Scandinavian Airlines strike in 4th day, affecting thousands

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — A strike among pilots at Scandinavian Airlines has entered its fourth day with the carrier being forced to cancel 1,213 flights Monday and Tuesday, affecting some 110,000 passengers.

The flag carrier of Denmark, Norway and Sweden says more than 170,000 passengers have been affected since the open-ended strike started Friday. The strike began after the collapse of pay negotiations

with the SAS Pilot Group, which represents 95% of the company's pilots in the three countries.

SAS CEO Rickard Gustafson on Monday urged the pilots to resume talks on a new collective bargaining agreement.

"Now we both have to take responsibility and come back to concrete discussions to find solutions that also make the company have a future, even after this conflict," Gustafson told Sweden's news agency TT. "We have put attractive of-

fers on the table that they have rejected. Having a list of demands that knocks off the feet of our competitiveness just doesn't work," he added.

The pilots' negotiations, which started in March, are mainly about salary increases and working hours. Details have not been released but the pan-Scandinavian union says it wants salaries to be in line with the market rate, while SAS negotiators have called the requests "unreasonable and extreme." □



SAS planes are seen grounded at Oslo Gardermoen airport during pilots strikes, in Oslo, Friday, April 26, 2019.

Associated Press

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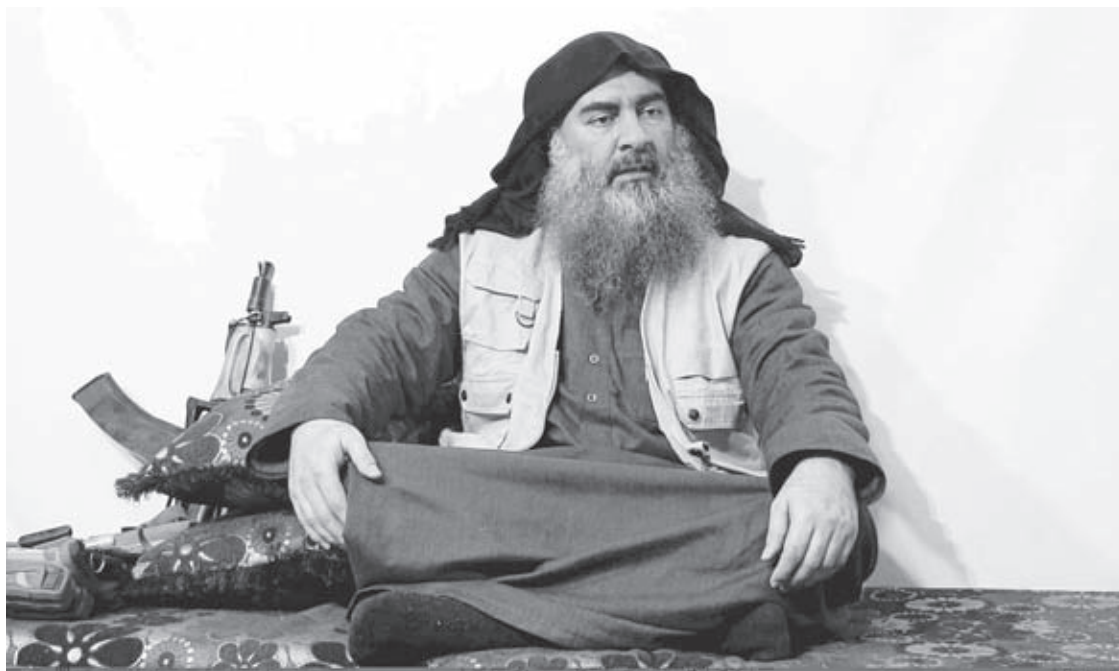
IS leader appears in video for first time in 5 years

By ZEINA KARAM
BASSEM MROUE
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The shadowy leader of the Islamic State group claimed to appear for the first time in five years in a video released by the extremist group's propaganda arm on Monday, acknowledging defeat in the group's last stronghold in Syria but vowing a "long battle" ahead.

The man said to be Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in the video also claimed the Easter Day bombings in Sri Lanka which killed over 250 people were "part of the revenge" that awaits the West.

The video released Monday by a media outlet run by the extremists, Al-Furqan, shows al-Baghdadi with a bushy grey and red beard, wearing a black robe with a beige vest and seated on the floor with what appears to be an AK47 rifle propped up next to him. He is speaking with



This image made from video posted on a militant website on Monday, April 29, 2019, purports to show the leader of the Islamic State group, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, being interviewed by his group's Al-Furqan media outlet.

Associated Press

three men seated opposite him whose faces were covered and blotted out.

It is his first video appearance since he delivered a sermon at the al-Nuri mosque in the Iraqi city of Mosul in 2014. In that video,

he appeared as a black-robed figure with a trimmed black beard to deliver a sermon from the pulpit of the mosque in which he urged Muslims around the world to swear allegiance to the caliphate and obey

him as its leader.

Since then, he has only released audio messages through the group's media outlets.

In the video released Monday, al-Baghdadi acknowledged that IS lost the war

in the eastern Syrian village of Baghouz, the group's last sliver of territory, which was captured last month by the U.S.-backed Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces. The fall of Baghouz marked the militants' territorial defeat and the end of their self-declared Islamic caliphate over parts of Syria and Iraq. Al-Baghdadi said that the battle for Baghouz demonstrated the "barbarism and brutality" of the West and the "courage, steadfastness and resilience of the nation of Islam."

"This steadfastness shocked the hearts of the Crusaders in what increased their rage," he added.

Referring to the setbacks in battle, he said the "brothers" of the many fallen fighters "will avenge that, as they will not forget as long as they have blood in their veins, and there will be a battle after this one."

Al-Baghdadi called specifically on his followers to intensify attacks on France. □

Abandon Jakarta: Indonesia again mulls plan for new capital



The central business district skyline is seen during the dusk in Jakarta, Indonesia, Monday, April 29, 2019.

Associated Press

Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia's decades-long discussion about building a new capital has inched forward after President Joko Widodo on Monday approved a long-term plan for the government to abandon overcrowded, sinking and polluted Jakarta.

Widodo decided at a special Cabinet meeting to move the capital outside of Indonesia's most populous island, Java, said Planning Minister Bambang Brodjonegoro. It was one of three options discussed.

The other alternatives were moving to a location near Jakarta or staying put and relocating all government buildings to a special zone around the presidential palace.

The site for a possible new capital hasn't been announced, but Palangkaraya on the island of Borneo has often been rumored as the location. Brodjonegoro, however, said eastern Indonesia is favored.

"This is a big job, impossible to take just one year, it could take up to 10 years," he said.

Prone to flooding and rapidly sinking due to uncontrolled ground water extraction, Jakarta is the archetypical Asian megacity creaking under the weight of its dysfunction. Only 4% of Jakarta's waste water is treated, according to the government, causing massive pollution to rivers and contaminating the ground water that supplies the city. Congestion is estimated to cost the economy \$6.5 billion a year.

"The idea to move the capital city appeared long ago," he said. □



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Succession this week to shrink Japan's imperial heirs to 2

By MARI YAMAGUCHI
KAORI HITOMI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's imperial family is relatively small and will shrink further in the coming years. Only one of Emperor Akihito's four grandchildren is a male who can ascend to the throne. The three princesses likely will lose their royal status eventually, since they are required to do so if they marry commoners. Akihito's daughter lost her imperial status after marrying a local government official.

A look at the imperial family as Akihito abdicates on Tuesday:

EMPERESS MICHIKO, 84

Akihito's wife, born Michiko Shoda, is the daughter of a wealthy businessman who led the Nissin Flour Milling Co. She graduated from the University of the Sacred Heart with top honors in English literature and has written and translated children's books. Michiko met Akihito at a 1957 tennis tournament remembered as a "love match," and the couple married two years later.

Michiko was the first commoner to marry an emperor and was part of many changes Akihito brought to Japan's ancient monarchy. They broke tradition by raising their three children instead of leaving their care to palace staff. They traveled around Japan, reaching out to those with disabilities or other difficulties. When the couple met people coping with disasters, Michiko led the interactions, typically kneeling on the floor "Heisei style," named after Akihito's era.

CROWN PRINCE NARUHITO, 59

Naruhito, whose name in

Chinese characters means a virtuous person, will ascend the Chrysanthemum Throne on Wednesday as the 126th emperor in a line dating to the fifth century. A historian and a viola player, Naruhito is Japan's first emperor-to-be to have studied abroad and could expand his role to global issues. He has pledged to inherit his father's devotion to peace and compassion for the people, while exploring his own style.

Naruhito married a Harvard-educated former diplomat, Masako. After graduating from Gakushuin, a private school for former aristocrats, Naruhito studied at Oxford University and authored a paper on the historical Thames River water transportation systems. His only child is Princess Aiko, 17.

CROWN PRINCESS MASAKO, 55

Harvard-educated Masako Owada had a promising future as a diplomat when she captured Naruhito's eye at a 1986 tea party. It took Naruhito seven years of waiting, during which Masako studied at Oxford and refused him twice. She finally accepted his proposal and the two married in 1993.

Despite growing expectations that she may help modernize and internationalize the palace, Masako has largely receded from the public since the early 2000s after giving birth to daughter Aiko and developing stress-induced depression. In 2004, Naruhito subtly criticized the heated attention and pressure placed on Masako to produce a boy while depriving her of foreign visits. Naruhito says Masako is steadily recovering and hopes to gradually expand her role.



In this July 7, 2013, file photo, Japanese Empress Michiko watches a concert of the Gakushuin university's alumni in which Crown Prince Naruhito plays the viola at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre in Tokyo.

Associated Press

PRINCESS AIKO, 17

The only child of Naruhito and Masako would have been next in line to the throne if born in a gender-equal nation. But Japan's Imperial House Law only allows males to rule. As a child, Aiko enjoyed watching sumo and memorized wrestlers' names and ranks. Having parents who studied in Britain, Aiko has participated in a summer program at Eton College.

PRINCE FUMIHITO, 53

The younger of Akihito's two sons, Fumihito is better known as Akishino, his childhood title, and will be crown prince during Naruhito's reign. His future stint will be short, if at all, and there is speculation that Fumihito may skip his turn and hand it to his 12-year-old son, Prince Hisahito. Affec-

tionately known as prince "catfish," his research subject, Fumihito has visited Thailand a number of times to study fisheries and the domestication of chickens. He met his wife, Kiko, at Gakushuin University, where both were students. Contrary to his brother's attentive team-player image, Fumihito is said to be free-spirited and outspoken, at times critical of his elder brother. He and Kiko have two daughters and a son.

PRINCESS KIKO, 52

Kiko, formerly Kiko Kawashima, grew up in the U.S. and Austria and lived in modest housing after returning to Japan. She was called the "apartment princess" when she married Fumihito in 1990. Twelve years after the couple had their second daughter, Kiko gave birth to Hisahito in 2006

amid intense attention on a possible male heir. Hisahito's birth halted a government debate on whether to change the succession rules to allow a female emperor.

PRINCE HISAHITO, 12

The only male of Akihito's four grandchildren, Hisahito will be second in line to the throne when the new era begins, and there is nobody left after him. The male-only succession rules maintained by the government and its right-wing supporters put him on the spot, with heavy pressure to produce a male heir. Akihito's abdication reminded the government of a need to resume discussion on how to maintain the royal population and a stable succession.

PRINCESS MAKO, 27

The oldest of Akihito's four grandchildren and sister of Hisahito, Mako has been a target of tabloid coverage due to her boyfriend's family debt scandal that pushed back their planned marriage to 2020 amid growing uncertainty. Her college classmate and boyfriend, Kei Komuro, is now studying law at Fordham University in New York.

PRINCESS KAKO, 24

The second-oldest of Akihito's grandchildren, Kako recently graduated from International Christian University in Tokyo, where she studied psychology. She won't seek a job and is expected to take on official duties as a member of the royal family. Kako spent a year studying performing arts at Leeds University in Britain and enjoys hip-hop dancing. She has published photo books as her looks and fashion gained followers. □

Mexico president kicks off new capital airport project

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador on Monday symbolically launched work on a new airport for Mexico City to replace the nearly half-built \$13 billion project he cancelled upon taking office.

López Obrador promised the new Felipe Ángeles airport northeast of the capital won't exceed its budget and will save the government money even with the cancellation of the partially built airport.

"It's going to resolve the problem of saturation at the current Mexico City airport, but also be an example of how you can carry out a rational, austere policy based on honesty that needs to establish itself as the way to live and the way to govern in our country," López Obrador said.

The new airport — named for a general allied with revolutionary icon Pancho Villa — is at the Santa Lucia military air base and the army is in charge of getting it built for \$4.1 billion.

It is supposed to begin operating in mid-2021, though construction has not yet begun.

Two new runways would be added to its existing one and the commercial airport would share the space with the military.

Critics have argued that the new airport will have difficulty operating simultaneously with the exist-



In this April 9, 2019, file photo, Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador answers questions from journalists at his daily 7 a.m. press conference at the National Palace in Mexico City.

Associated Press

ing airport, but in a report by the military, consultant Navblue said they could operate simultaneously in terms of air space.

One of the early hitches pointed out in the military's environmental impact statement is a small mountain named "Paula" that sits beside one of the runways. It would be too close for commercial airliners to use that runway, so the report says it would be dedicated exclusively to military use.

But the biggest concern raised in the report has to do with water. The airport would consume an estimated 6 million liters (1.6 million

gallons) per day from an already severely overtaxed aquifer that the capital depends on, and that's not including consumption from hotels and other businesses that will spring up around it, the report said.

Three existing wells on the air base should provide enough water, but that is expected to lower the water table in the aquifer, so some wells could go dry.

The report says that could be mitigated by creating recharge zones in the area to put water back into the aquifer. Another possibility would be bringing water from another, less-stressed

aquifer.

On Monday, the Zeferino Ladrillero Human Rights Center called on the government to consult with the more than 20 communities around the airport. The group warned that the water consumption would directly impact livestock and agriculture, and with it the livelihoods of thousands of families.

López Obrador, though, said consultations had already taken place.

"I can tell you now that the consultation with the communities around Santa Lucia happened and what do you think? The people

approved the project," he said. There was no description of when or how those consultations were performed.

When the time the airport it begins to operate in mid-2021, it could handle nearly 20 million passengers.

One of the looming questions is how flights will be divided between the capital's main airport, Benito Juárez International, and the new one at Santa Lucia. The environmental impact statement for the project mentions that initially two airlines will be operating there, but it does not say which.

The new airport would connect to the existing one via a 28-mile (46 kilometer) route with dedicated bus lanes to speed passengers to their connecting flights. About 5 miles of that route would actually be along a perimeter road built for the now-cancelled airport at Texcoco.

In October, before López Obrador had taken office, he held an unofficial referendum on cancelling the \$13 billion Texcoco project, which was already nearly half completed. He proposed converting the Santa Lucia air base and making improvements at Benito Juarez, which had been targeted for closure. The plan received 70% approval, though critics complained that fewer than 2 percent of Mexico's registered voters took part. □

Rights group alarmed by ouster of Bolivian judges



In this Nov. 7, 2017 file photo, a supporter of Bolivia's President Evo Morales waves a party flag during a march supporting his re-election, despite a referendum ruling out his run for a fourth term, in La Paz, Bolivia.

Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — A prominent human rights group said Monday that Bolivia has undermined judicial independence by arbitrarily dismissing nearly 100 judges since 2017 and it asked the Organization of American States to address the issue.

Human Rights Watch said the judges were not given any reason for the dismissals by a Magistrates Council dominated by allies of President Evo Morales.

It said even judges who supposedly had perma-

nent positions have been ousted.

Government officials contacted by The Associated Press said they would have no comment before reading the report.

The New York-based organization noted that the OAS Democratic Charter calls for the "separation of powers and independence of the branches of government" and said several international treaties signed by Bolivia demand an independent and impartial judiciary.

Judges who can be replaced by officials "are much more vulnerable to pressure that the government can exercise," said the organization's Americas director, Jose Miguel Vivanco. "HRW has received credible complaints of pressure by senior government officials for judges to try opponents."

He also cited a Constitutional Tribunal ruling declaring that Morales has a "human right" to run for re-election indefinitely despite a constitutional ban. □

LOCAL



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Honoring of loyal visitors at the Divi All-Inclusive Resort

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitor and Goodwill Ambassador. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively. The Goodwill Ambassador is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were **Richard and Anita Massini** who were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors and **Carolyn Paidoussis** who was honored as Distinguished Visitor of Aruba.

These lovely people stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, delicious variety of foods, The Divi Resort and staff, and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of The Divi All-Inclusive Resort presented the certificates to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home... □



Island Insight

Circum-Caribbean Shamans and their substances



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Episode XIV

Yopo or Cohoba and the Toad poison

The practice of using Yopo or toad poison was always dangerous for those experimenting, and did not always help the participant achieve wisdom. Still, it was a very important religious practice which has its roots in Caquetian spiritualism. It is believed that the cult dedicated to nature spirits was practiced along with their mythological beliefs. Given the heterogeneity of language and culture, it is impossible to characterize a single indigenous "shamanism" or "shaman" for South American lowland and Caribbean Amerindian groups. A great variety of shamanic specialists performing rituals and administer substances for beneficial purposes has been observed; an equal number of individuals are recognized for their potential to send harm to others. The acquisition of knowledge and practices vary considerably between groups. In some, shamanic knowledge is acquired through dreams, without a formal apprenticeship, and all people share a bit of shamanic power. Others have formal apprenticeships with masters. In some cases the aggressor may be the same person who heals. Among the Arawakans of the Rio Negro and Guyana regions, there is a plurality of specialists who are classified by intention and by techniques. The poison owners cause harm or healing by the use of plant knowledge. Anyone who knows the right chants can cause harm. There are a variety of healers, who are distinguished by their secret knowledge and the substances and therapeutic techniques

Thus, indigenous terms for the anthropological category of shamans are culturally specific and the characteristics of these specialists are so varied, including the acquisition of knowledge and techniques, that it is impossible to identify a universal shamanic role in the face of this diversity. Historically it has been the anthropologists who identify certain figures as "shamans" or pajés, or which doctors, as they are called in the modern literature, and not by the natives. The use of a single gloss is a scientific interpretation of language and culture, it is impossible to characterize a single indigenous "shamanism" or "shamanistic teaching practices" for South American lowland groups. We must consider that a great variety of shamanic specialists are performing rituals and administer substances for beneficial purposes; an equal number of individuals are recognized for their potential to send harm to others. The acquisition of knowledge and practices vary considerably between groups. Shamanism among the ancient Caquetios was expressed mainly during the Cohoba and the Maco ceremonies, when shamans and important men in the community inhaled psychoactive powders or the liking of poisonous toads. Seated on a rock or on a wooden stool, they first pushed a spatula down their throats, purging the stomach and purifying it to receive the sacred hallucinogenic powders.

The cohoba ritual aimed to help its practitioners to contact the deities or spirits to diagnose illnesses and predict the future. On the other hand it has been interpreted to empower to practitioner to transmit and as propitiatory to ceramic effigies and Zemi's that were buried in Cunuco's that on their hand transmit fertility powers for



agricultural purposes, especially for yuca, corn beans and squashes. Aboriginal tribes of the Caribbean, Central and South America, including the Caquetioan groups of our islands, used to ground the seeds of a plant called *Ana denantera preregrina together with other herbs and also with snails or shells, which they burn and then add the mixture into a container for its elaboration through the sacred fire. In that way they obtained a fine powder, essentially hallucinogenic, that was inhaled or blown in the nose of the companion either as a remedy or for spiritual trance, a hecura for the Yanomamis of the Amazon region. A trance that facilitates the interpretation of messages, throwing effective spells and the offering of blessings through open portals of earthly power. The active component of these seeds is similar to an "isolated" part of the poisonous glands of the common cane toad also known as Maco, Spc. *Rhinella Marinus*, which the excreted substance of its poison glands on it back is used as an entheogen for it hallucinogenic quality. Despite all precaution deadly overdoses still occurs. In Aruba there is an ancient Shamanic chant which goes as follow "Dori maco si mi muri

Each week we share the most interesting and revealing articles regarding Aruba, a destination to be explored, we can find, and so doing uncover amazing and informative stories along the way.



Cane toad or Dori maco

quen ta dera" "Toad Mako if I die who will bury my cadaver?"

Ana denantera preregrina: angico-cohoba-vilca-yopo Botanical name of the plant which we refer to as cohoba or yopo has been dispersed all through the Caribbean, Central and South America greatly by the hand of man.

It is a tree that grows in Española, Puerto Rico, Lesser Antilles and northern part

of South America, Brazil and Paraguay. It reaches 60 feet high and approx. a foot of diameter in its trunk. Its leaves are 9 inches long and each contains thousands of small leaves. The buds measure one half of an inch and their fruits, with the shape of a ballón, about 8 inches, which when opened, release more or less ten seeds. The tree is in bloom from autumn to spring, its fruits are the product of the flowering of the previous spring. □



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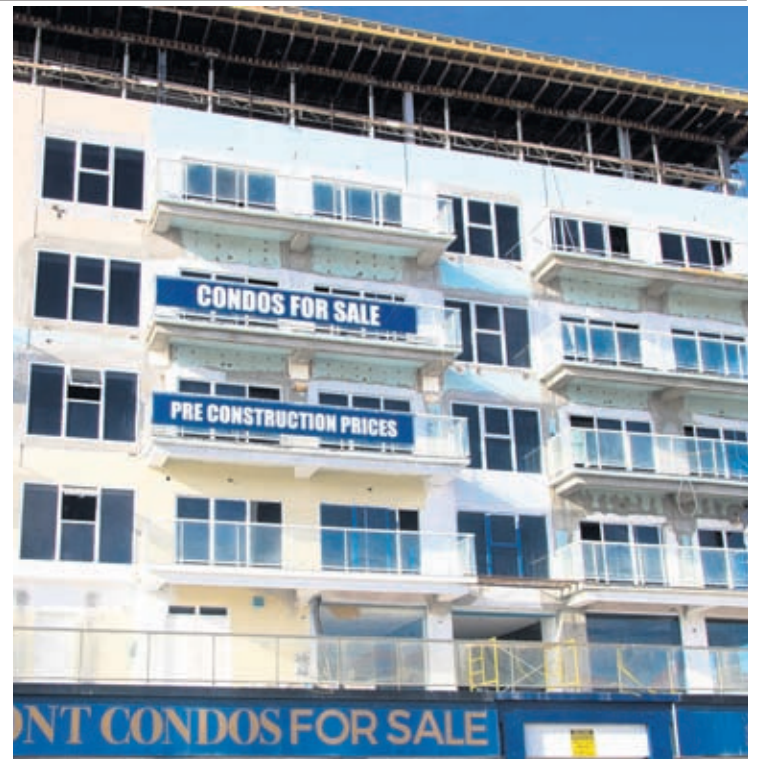


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Marinelda Cartaya, Sales Manager, elaborates on the construction phase of this unique project. "We started about a year ago with the construction and we are super happy to say that we are on schedule. All the divisions of the different condominiums are done, so you can actually see the interior space in each unit." Besides the divisions the floor tiles of the condominiums are being laid as well. "By just looking at the materials you can really imagine how the end result will be. We can also show a model of the kitchens we use. You get the perfect picture", Marinelda continues. The 7th floor is where the gym with amazing ocean views will rise and on the other end the only and mind-blowing 5-BR Pent House is under construction. The roofs are currently being installed on this floor and floor 6 while the deep foundations for the pool level have been completed. "That was a huge job as the foundations required piling 26 feet deep and there is only one machine for this type of job in the region. We had to bring it in to execute this work. Well, we really want the wow factor of the infinity pool overlooking the harbor, so we needed to do whatever it takes", she laughs.

Best of Both Worlds

The construction is going according to plans meaning that the new downtown living that Harbour House offers will be ready in the first quarter of 2020. "We have already sold all studios, there are some 2-bedroom condominiums left and we have 3-bedroom condos available. Of the latter we offer also corner units that provide you with an awesome 90-degree panorama over the city and ocean." Waking up with a view like that will start your day with positive vibes. Imagine yourself sipping your coffee gazing over the awakening city and the Caribbean ocean. The best of both worlds.



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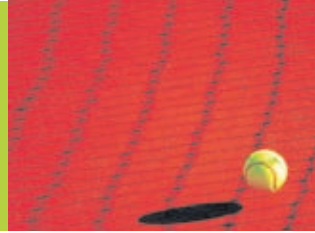
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For more information: <https://harbourhousearuba.com>. The Sales Office is a walk-in office, just step inside as an appointment is not necessary. □



SPORTS



San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich talks about the Spurs season at the NBA basketball teams practice facility in San Antonio, Texas, Monday, April 29, 2019.

Associated Press

Popovich negotiating new deal with San Antonio Spurs

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ
Associated Press

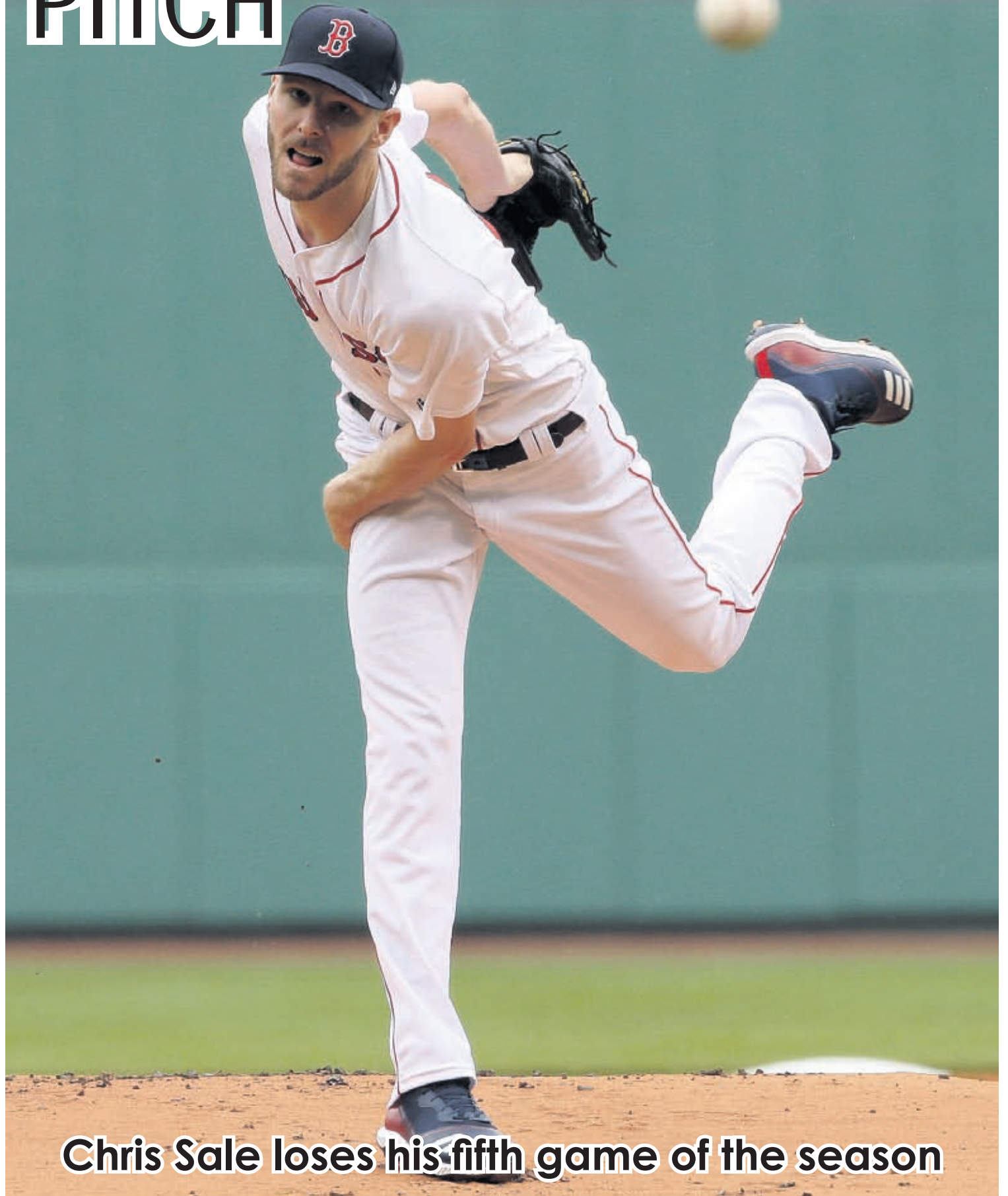
SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Spurs suffered through an odd, erratic season filled with injuries, strife and drama before a second straight ouster from the playoffs in the first round. Gregg Popovich enjoyed it so much he is coming back for a 24th season as coach in San Antonio.

Normally extremely private, Popovich said Monday he is negotiating a new deal with the Spurs after his current contract expired this season. There was some uncertainty surrounding his return, but the 70-year-old Popovich put an end to that with a quip or two.

"I'm currently in negotiations and could very well end up with either the Portofino Flyers or the Positano Pirates (or the Spurs)," Popovich said dryly. "I think it's like one-third Positano, one-third Portofino and one-third San Antonio. So, we'll see where I end up."

Continued on Page 23

SALE'S PITCH



Chris Sale loses his fifth game of the season

Boston Red Sox's Chris Sale delivers a pitch against the Tampa Bay Rays during the first inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Boston.

Associated Press
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Avalanche beat Sharks 4-3 to even series at game apiece

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Sports Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) —

Trailing in the second period and in danger of going down 2-0 in the series, Colorado Avalanche coach Jared Bednar put his three top scorers back on a line together and got the results he sought.

Gabriel Landeskog scored the first goal and Mikko Rantanen's hustle helped create the tiebreaking tally from Tyson Barrie, sending the Avalanche to a 4-3 victory over the San Jose Sharks on Sunday that tied the second-round series at a game apiece.

"In the first period, we didn't get much going so maybe he wanted to switch a little bit and see if it brings a spark," Rantanen said. "We got an early goal from Landy and there was no changing back."

Landeskog, Rantanen and Nathan MacKinnon were reunited early in the second period and helped provide goals on the first and fourth shifts, turning the tide of the series in Colorado's direction after a 5-2 loss in the opener.

Former Shark Matt Nieto scored in the third period and MacKinnon added an empty-netter to give Colorado its third victory in its past 24 games in San Jose. Philipp Grubauer made 31 saves.

"It's big for our confidence," said Barrie, who had a goal



San Jose Sharks' Marc-Edouard Vlasic (44) watches as Colorado Avalanche's Gabriel Landeskog (92) scores goal against Sharks goaltender Martin Jones (31) in the second period of Game 2 of an NHL hockey second-round playoff series at the SAP Center in San Jose, Calif., on Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

and two assists. "This is a tough building to win in. We haven't had a whole lot of success here. We wanted to come in and at least get a split. We did that."

Game 3 is Tuesday night in Denver.

Brent Burns scored twice and Evander Kane also scored for the Sharks, who had won four straight games. Martin Jones made 28 saves.

The Avalanche turned the game around thanks to their top line that has been so dangerous all year. Landeskog got to the front of the net to deflect a point shot from Barrie past Jones for the equalizer midway through the second.

The ice was tilted Colorado's way after that and the trio helped deliver again a couple of shifts later. Rantanen raced past Marc-Edouard Vlasic to negate an icing and create a scoring chance for Colorado. Jones made a good stop on Landeskog from in close but the puck went out to Barrie at the top of the faceoff circle and he beat Jones with a shot to the top corner to give Colorado a 2-1 lead.

"I just tried to beat the D and run the puck down," Rantanen said. "Landy gave me the 50-50 puck and they didn't whistle it down so it was good for us." The Sharks appeared to

slow up on the play in anticipation of the icing call and that brief hesitation proved costly when the linesman didn't blow the play dead.

"Whether I thought it was doesn't matter," coach Peter DeBoer said. "The players did and they let up, they relaxed for a minute, it obviously wasn't, so it's I guess a lesson, and that is don't assume anything is in the playoffs, play and make sure."

The Sharks had a chance to tie it early in the third but Grubauer robbed Logan Couture from the slot with a glove save.

Shortly after, Nieto scored following a scramble in

front of Jones after a turnover by Marcus Sorensen to make it 3-1 and give the Avalanche some breathing room.

Burns scored with a wrist from the top circle to make it a one-goal game with 4:34 to play.

But MacKinnon scored an empty-netter with 1:02 to play that made Burns' power-play goal with 10.9 seconds left moot.

The Sharks got off to a fast start as they looked to build on their 5-2 victory in the series opener. They looked like the quicker team early and appeared to have much more energy than they did Friday night when they were still recovering from a grueling seven-game series in the first round.

That paid off midway through the first when Kane beat rookie Cale Makar to the rebound of Burns' point shot and knocked it past Grubauer for his first goal since the playoff opener.

The Sharks had plenty of more chances late in the period but were unable to get anything else past Grubauer, who made a brilliant glove save to rob Kevin Labanc in the final minute of the first.

"We should've been up two or three after the first," Couture said. "We had too many good looks not to score a second one and give ourselves a bigger lead, and then they found their game in the second." □

Trump hosts winning Baylor women's basketball team

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday hosted the Baylor University women's basketball team in the Oval Office — the team's third visit to the White House as national champions.

The Lady Bears, who beat Notre Dame 82-81 earlier this month, were served fast food from Wendy's, McDonald's and Burger King in the State Dining Room — the same spread that other sports teams were served during their visits to the Trump White House.

The Lady Bears are the first



President Donald Trump shakes hands with Baylor women's basketball head coach Kim Mulkey, third from left, as he welcomed members of the Baylor women's basketball team, who are the 2019 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Champions, to the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Monday, April 29, 2019.

Associated Press

women's basketball team to visit the Trump White House; the 2017 and 2018 women's college basketball champions did not.

Coach Kim Mulkey and her team also met at the White House with President George W. Bush and President Barack Obama after their two previous national championships.

The team finished this past season 37-1.

"It was a thrilling victory that people will be talking about for many, many more years to come," Trump said.

"You've left an enduring

mark on college basketball history," he added.

The team gave Trump a signed basketball, a national championship hat and a Baylor basketball jersey emblazoned with No. 1. "It may not be the right size," Mulkey said. First lady "Melania may look better in it."

Trump said he loved it.

"You know, I love those short sleeves. Such beautiful arms. Great definition," Trump said as he stroked his upper arm.

The coach then quipped: "Like I said, Melania may look better in it." □

Minjee Lee wins L.A. Open for 5th LPGA Tour title

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Minjee Lee won the Hugel-Air Premia LA Open on Sunday at Wilshire Country Club for her fifth LPGA Tour title, closing with a 3-under 68 for a four-stroke victory.

The 22-year-old Australian was projected to jump from fourth to second in the world ranking Monday after her fourth top-three finish in her last seven starts. "Coming in, the first half of the year that I've had, I've been hitting it pretty solid and playing pretty solid," Lee said. "I felt like it was close. I feel pretty good with this one."

Lee made a 15-foot birdie putt on the par-3 18th to finish at 14-under 270. She led the last three days, shooting 66-69-67 to take a one-stroke advantage over Nanna Koerstz Madsen into the final round. (backslash)

Lee won a year after tying for seventh in the inaugural event.

"It's definitely a second-shot golf course," Lee said. "I feel like my iron play is pretty solid and usually I can be accurate with them."

I think it suits me and my game. If my putter is running hot then I have a good chance."

Sei Young Kim was second. The South Korean birdied Nos. 13-15 to pull within two strokes, but parred 16 and 17 and bogeyed the 18th for a 66.

"This golf course is not easy, even regular tournament," Kim said. "The greens are really fast. If I miss the wrong side, it's tough to up-and-down. Even that, I'm very satisfied with my playing. I'm very happy with my score."

Lee easily held on after



Minjee Lee, of Australia, poses with her trophy after winning the Hugel-Air Premia LA Open golf tournament at Wilshire Country Club, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Kim's rally stalled.

"I was just going to carry on playing my own game," Lee said. "I had a couple birdie opportunities coming

in, so I didn't get rattled up or anything."

Annie Park (67) and Morgan Pressel (68) tied for third at 9 under.

Koerstz Madsen shot a 76 to finish 13th at 5 under. She was trying to become the first Danish winner in LPGA Tour history. □

Tom Pernice Jr. and Scott Hoch win Legends of Golf

RIDGEDALE, Mo. (AP) — Tom Pernice Jr. and Scott Hoch completed a wire-to-wire victory Sunday in the PGA Tour Champions' Bass Pro Shops Legends, opening with Pernice's hole-in-one on the Top of the Rock par-3 course.

Pernice used a 7-iron on the 175-yard first hole.

"Obviously when they go in, it's a little bit lucky, but I did hit a very good shot and was fortunate for it to go in," Pernice said. "Followed it up with a birdie on 2, so that was a great start."

Pernice and Hoch finished with an 8-under 46 for two trips around the par-3 course, playing both the opening nine of modified alternate shot and the best-ball second nine in 4-under 23.

The winners had a 23-under 156 total to break the

record at Big Cedar Lodge and finish five strokes ahead of Vijay Singh-Carlos Franco and Paul Broadhurst-Kirk Triplett. Singh Franco shot 46, and Broadhurst-Triplett had a 44.

The 63-year-old Hoch won for the third time on the 50-and-over circuit, becoming the oldest winner in tour history — a record that he quickly dismissed because it came in a team event.

"It's a team event. It's great that I won, but I don't think you can compare that to an individual win," Hoch said. "I mean, the individual winner, especially getting 62, 63 or something like that."

Mike Fetchick was the oldest previous winner, at 63 years to the day in the 1985 Hilton Head Seniors Invitational. □

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Sale drops to 0-5 as Rays beat Red Sox 5-2



Boston Red Sox's Chris Sale delivers a pitch against the Tampa Bay Rays during the first inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Boston. Associated Press

BOSTON — Chris Sale remained winless in six starts this season, giving up Daniel Robertson's two-run homer in the first inning and Yandy Diaz's two-run triple in the second, as Tampa Bay beat Boston.

Sale (0-5) gave up four runs — two earned — four hits and three walks in seven innings with eight strikeouts. After signing a \$160 million, six-year contract in spring training, the 30-year-old left-hander has a 6.40 ERA. Tyler Glasnow (5-0) gave up two runs and five hits in 6 2/3 innings with nine strikeouts. Tampa Bay improved to a major league-best 18-9 and has won eight of nine series this year.

Twins 4, Orioles 1

MINNEAPOLIS — Max Kepler led off against Dylan Bundy (0-4) with his fourth

home run of the series, Byron Buxton also homered and Minnesota swept its six-game season series against Baltimore.

Minnesota hit 23 home runs in the series. Baltimore has given up 71 homers in 29 games; St. Louis was second in the majors with 51. Blue Jays 5, Athletics 4

TORONTO — Brandon Drury hit a tying three-run homer off Blake Treinen (1-2) in the 11th inning, Justin Smoak following with a game-winning single and Toronto finished a six-game season sweep of Oakland.

Oakland took a 4-1 lead in the 11th when Ramon Laureano hit a sacrifice fly off Thomas Pannone, Josh Phegley followed with an RBI double and Elvis Luciano (1-0) hit Matt Chapman on the left side with a pitch

with the bases loaded. Luciano got his first major league win.

Angels 7, Royals 3

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Albert Pujols passed Barry Bonds for third place in career RBIs, hitting a go-ahead, two-run double in the first off Homer Bailey (2-3). Pujols has 1,997 RBIs and trails only Hank Aaron (2,297) and Alex Rodriguez (2,086) in RBIs, which became an official statistic in 1920.

Matt Harvey (1-2) got his first win with the Angels, allowing one run and two hits in seven innings.

Astros 4, Indians 1

HOUSTON — Robinson Chirinos hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in a four-run seventh inning to give the Houston Astros a win over the Cleveland Indians. The Astros were unable to

do much against Carlos Carrasco (2-3) before Yuli Gurriel's RBI double in the seventh. After an intentional walk, Chirinos sent the next pitch over the train tracks atop the wall in left field and out of the stadium on a night the retractable roof was open.

The Astros won the final two games to earn a split of the four-game set with Cleveland, a rematch of last year's AL Division Series in which Houston earned a three-game sweep. Houston also moved into first place in the AL West.

Wade Miley yielded six hits and one run in 5 2/3 innings to extend his streak of consecutive starts with three or fewer earned runs to 22. The left-hander struck out three and walked two.

White Sox 4, Tigers 1

CHICAGO — Reynaldo Lopez (2-3) struck out a career-high 14 and allowed two hits and an unearned run over six innings as Chicago completed a rain-shortened two-game sweep. Wellington Castillo went 2 for 4 with two RBIs, and Leury Garcia and Yolmer Sanchez each drove in a run. Alex Colome got three outs for his fifth save. Matthew Boyd (2-2) gave up two runs in six innings for Detroit, which has lost four straight.

Rangers 14, Mariners 1

SEATTLE — Elvis Andrus, Hunter Pence, Logan Forsythe and Shin-Soo Choo homered to back Lance Lynn (3-2), who allowed one run over seven innings. Andrus and Pence homered off Eric Swanson (0-3) during a four-run third. □

NATIONAL LEAGUE

LeMahieu, Urshela get hurt as Yankees beat Giants, 11-5

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The New York Yankees keep on getting hurt — and winning.

DJ LeMahieu and Gio Urshela became the latest Yankees to get hurt as New York completed a three-game sweep of the San Francisco Giants with an 11-5 win Sunday that included another long home run by Gary Sanchez.

"I've always felt with this team, through ups and downs, they're really good at turning the page," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "But there is an extra focus right now with what we're going through. Guys are coming in ready for any kind of role, any kind of situation, and they're delivering."

LeMahieu was removed in the bottom of the third because of right knee inflammation. LeMahieu fouled a pitch off the knee on Friday night and had the knee wrapped with ice after Friday's and Saturday's games. In his first season with the Yankees, LeMahieu is hitting .310 with 15 RBIs.

Urshela left after he was hit on his left hand by an 88.5 mph cutter from Nick Vincent in the fifth. Urshela had two hits Sunday and is batting .351 with six RBIs in 57 at-bats.

The Yankees said X-rays on both players were negative. LeMahieu is scheduled to undergo an MRI on Monday.

"It's the story of the season, besides winning a bunch of games lately," LeMahieu said. "It's frustrating."

New York has had 15 players on the injured list this year and just two have come back: Sanchez and pitcher CC Sabathia. Still, the Yankees are 6-1 on a western trip after outscoring the Giants 21-12, and New York improved to a season-best six games over .500 at 17-11 by winning for

the 11th time in 13 games. With a depleted bench, the Yankees used pitcher J.A. Happ as a pinch-hitter in the seventh inning, and he grounded out.

"Just proud of how they've rallied around one another," Boone said. "We've got really good makeup in that room. It's something that's important to us, to have those kind of people. And I think we have that in spades in there with guys that are tough, that are prepared."

Sanchez and Gleyber Torres hit two-run homers as the Yankees built an 8-0 lead by the sixth inning, and Luke Voit added three hits and a walk to extend his on-base streak to 39 games.

Domingo German (5-1) took a shutout into the sixth before tiring and tied for the major league lead in wins. He allowed four runs and five hits in six innings.

Mets 5, Brewers 2

NEW YORK — Reigning NL MVP Christian Yelich left in the fifth with low back discomfort, and Mets star Robinson Cano exited in the first after being hit by a pitch on his left hand.

Yelich likely will get at least one game off. X-rays on Canowere negative, but New York will send him for further testing Monday.

J.D. Davis had a tiebreaking pinch-hit single in the seventh off Alex Claudio after Amed Rosario reached when Yelich's replacement, Ben Gamel, dropped his flyball to right off Jacob Barnes (1-1).

Mike Moustakas hit a tying two-run homer off Steven Matz (3-1) in the seventh.

Nationals 7, Padres 6

WASHINGTON — Matt Adams homered off Matt Wisler (1-1) leading off the 11th, his third career walk-off homer, as Washington overcame a 6-0 deficit.

Carter Kieboom, Victor Robles and Juan Soto hom-



New York Mets' Robinson Cano, left, reacts after being hit by a pitch during the first inning of the MLB baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers at Citi Field, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

ered for Washington. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, it was the first time three teammates under the age of 22 homered in the same game. Soto is 20, while Kieboom and Robles are 21.

San Diego shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr. left in the 10th with a hamstring injury after he did an awkward-looking split while trying to stretch for a throw at second base.

Braves 8, Rockies 7

ATLANTA — Josh Donaldson overcame a 7-5 deficit with a three-run homer in the eighth off Seunghwan Oh (1-1), Atlanta's fourth home run of the game.

Jacob Webb (1-0) got the final out in the eighth, and Luke Jackson earned his first save when Nolan Arenado flied out with two on and David Dahl grounded out.

Cardinals 5, Reds 2

ST. LOUIS — Jack Flaherty (3-1) gave up four hits in seven scoreless innings, and Yadier Molina drove in three runs as St. Louis won for the seventh time in eight games. John Gant retired Derek Dietrich with a man on for his second save.

Sonny Gray (0-4) allowed two runs and three hits in five innings.

Phillies 5, Marlins 1

PHILADELPHIA — Zach Eflin (3-3) threw a seven-hitter, the first complete game for the Phillies pitcher since September 2017.

Jean Segura had three of just four hits overall for Philadelphia, including an RBI triple. Pablo Lopez (2-4) gave up four runs in 5 2/3 innings.

Dodgers 7, Pirates 6

LOS ANGELES — Max Muncy singled home the tying run in the fifth inning and the go-ahead run off Richard Rodriguez (0-2) in the seventh as Los Angeles rallied from a 5-1 deficit and completed a three-game sweep.

Rich Hill made his season debut after recovering from a sprained right knee and allowed five runs — just one earned — and five hits in six innings.

Cody Bellinger hit his 14th homer, matching Albert Pujols (2006), Alex Rodriguez (2007) and Christian Yelich (this year) for the most home runs before the end of the season's first full month. Bellinger had three RBIs and leads the major leagues with a .427 average and 36 RBIs.

Kenley Jansen struck out Gregory Polanco with runners at second and third for his 10th save.

Pittsburgh's Melky Cabrera had four hits, including a pair of home runs. The Pirates have lost eight consecutive games.

Cubs 6, Diamondbacks 5, 15 innings

PHOENIX — Ben Zobrist lined a two-run double in the 15th inning, and Chicago outlasted Arizona in the second-longest game in Chase Field history.

After escaping a jam in the 14th, Tyler Chatwood (1-0) sparked the decisive sequence with a one-out double. Albert Almora Jr. followed with a single and both scored on Zobrist's double to the corner in right off Matt Andriese (3-2). Kris Bryant followed with a sacrifice fly.

Kyle Ryan gave up Caleb Joseph's two-run single in the bottom half before Allen Webster got Nick Ahmed to fly out at the warning track for his first career save.

The game lasted 5 hours, 36 minutes — 10 minutes short of the longest at Chase Field.

Bryant also hit a two-run homer off Luke Weaver and Wilson Contreras had a solo shot for the Cubs, unbeaten their last six series (5-0-1).



Dolphins' Josh Rosen says he can be franchise quarterback

By STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — As he embraced a fresh start Monday, Josh Rosen said all the right things, smiled a lot and even cracked a couple of jokes, such as when he noted the phalanx of photographers nearly drowning out his first news conference with the Miami Dolphins.

"These clicks," he said with a chuckle, "are loud."

Rosen does attract clicks, which is a big change for a Dolphins team low on star power. It has been so long since they had a Pro Bowl quarterback that Rosen referred to him as "Mr. Marino."

Despite a rough rookie season that prompted the Arizona Cardinals to discard him, Rosen still believes he can be a Dan Marino-type franchise quarterback. And he's glad to get an opportunity with the Dolphins, who are eager to stop a revolving door at the position that has gone through 19 starters since Marino's last game 20 years ago.

"I couldn't be more excited to be here," Rosen said. "Very rarely do you get a



Miami Dolphins NFL football quarterback Josh Rosen smiles as he speaks during a news conference, Monday, April 29, 2019, at the Dolphins training facility in Davie, Fla.

Associated Press

second chance to make a first impression."

As for motivation, Rosen's crooked grin grew wider when he was asked about any chip on his shoulder.

"I don't think my chip has to grow any more," he said. "I might tip over."

He was the 10th overall pick in the 2018 draft but became expendable in Arizona last week when

the Cardinals used the No. 1 overall pick to select Kyler Murray. A day later, the Dolphins acquired him for two draft picks to become part of their rebuilding effort under first-year coach Brian Flores.

"I felt like I got drafted twice," he said.

Rosen took no direct jabs at the Cardinals and acknowledged that in Miami

he faces a one-year tryout. If he doesn't play well this season, the Dolphins will likely have a poor record and be well-positioned to take a QB early in the first round in 2020.

Rosen also acknowledged his image needs work. Doubts about his leadership and personality linger despite efforts by Arizona teammates and coaches

to dispel them.

He said the issue dates to his years at UCLA.

"I didn't have all my answers as perfectly crafted as I do now," he said. "I said some things off the cuff, and people misconstrued them. ...

"I think I'm a really good teammate. What I've tried to do is not say or do anything extra, just kind of be me and keep my head down, and eventually the story will straighten out. I think it has for the most part. Time and consistency are the best medicine to cure the narrative."

With that in mind, Rosen had answers ready when asked about:

— competing for the starting job with another Dolphins newcomer, veteran Ryan Fitzpatrick. "The timing on whether I play or not is not up to me."

— Pro Football Hall of Famer Marino. "Hopefully I can follow in some semblance of his massive footsteps."

— his belief that he can become a franchise QB. "I think I'm a good quarterback, and I think I'm a good leader." The Dolphins hope he's right. □



D.C. United's Bill Hamid, left, allows the winning goal from Minnesota United's Angelo Rodriguez during an MLS soccer match in St. Paul, Minn., Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Jordan Morris scored for the Seattle Sounders in the first minute, Carlos Vela countered for Los Angeles FC three minutes later in a 1-1 tie Sunday.

The Sounders (5-1-3), who were routed 4-1 by LAFC last Sunday in California, played the final 72 minutes of regulation with 10 men

after Cristian Roldan was sent off with a straight red card in the 18th minute. They also lost Kelvin Leerdan to a red card during second-half stoppage time after he tripped Diego Rossi on a breakaway just outside the penalty area. Morris put the Sounders on the board with just 46 seconds elapsed. Leerdan took control on the at-

Los Angeles FC, Seattle Sounders tie 1-1

tacking right side. He sent it through to Morris, who took it into the box and, from the right of the penalty spot, fired to the back left corner for his fourth of the season.

League scoring leader Vela tied it three minutes later for Los Angeles (7-1-2). Jordan Harvey sent a long ball down the left side, and Diego Rossi caught up with it. He crossed it into the box, and goalkeeper Stefan Frei came out to play it at the near post. But it went beyond his reach, dropping onto Vela's foot at the far post for an easy redirect for his 11th goal.

GALAXY 2, REAL SALT LAKE 1

CARSON, Calif. (AP) —

Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Uriel Antuna scored and Los Angeles beat Real Salt Lake to extend its unbeaten streak to seven games. Sebastian Lletget, who was being hounded on the left side, played a sliding cross around defender Aaron Herrera to Ibrahimovic for a first-timed left-footer that made it 2-1 in the 78th minute.

Antuna scored his first MLS goal to give the Galaxy (7-1-1) the lead in the 16th minute. Donny Toia tied it for Real Salt Lake (3-5-1) in the 64th.

MINNESOTA UNITED 1, D.C. UNITED 0

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Angelo Rodríguez scored in the 82nd minute and Min-

nesota United beat D.C. United to three-game winless streak with its first victory at Allianz Field.

Vito Mannone had one save for his third MLS shutout. Minnesota (4-3-2) has back-to-back shutouts for the first time in franchise history. D.C. is 5-3-2.

IMPACT 1, FIRE 0

MONTREAL (AP) — Omar Browne scored in the 83rd minute in his MLS debut to lift Montreal past Chicago. The 24-year-old Panamanian striker came in as a substitute in the 40th minute for the injured Clement Bayiha. Evan Bush made two saves for his fifth shutout of the season for the Impact (5-3-2). The Fire are 2-4-3. □

Larson rolled but Talladega delivered for NASCAR

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

Anything and everything could have gone wrong at Talladega Superspeedway, where the cars were too fast, engine makers feared their motors couldn't go 500 miles without overheating and drivers insisted they had no idea whatsoever how they planned to race. It could have been a disaster.

But NASCAR made adjustments on the fly and felt confident Talladega was going to be a good show, even as insiders worried the event would be either terribly boring or, more concerning, a dangerous wreckfest.

All things considered, NASCAR produced one of the better Talladega races in recent memory even though Kyle Larson barrel-rolled down the Alabama track on the last lap of Sunday's race.

Talladega is dangerous, the speeds seemed dicey and the present NASCAR field has significant talent discrepancies. The veterans understood that closing

rates were uncomfortably quick and drivers unable to adjust would steamroll over the cars in front of him. That means wrecks. The season-opening Daytona 500, run two months ago under an old rules package, had been a demolition derby and there was every reason to believe Talladega, with so much uncertainty and new rules, was going to be Daytona redux.

Except it wasn't, and NASCAR chief racing development officer Steve O'Donnell told The Associated Press the series felt confident it had a package that could deliver safe and exciting racing.

"Until an actual race takes place you never know what you'll see," O'Donnell said Monday, adding testing and data had given NASCAR engineers confidence safety had not been compromised. "You go into the event confident in what you do."

There were so many unknowns, though, and the first practice under the 2019 rules package was jarring because 21 cars



Kyle Larson (42) flips as he makes contact with Jeffrey Earnhardt (81) on the back stretch during a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Talladega, Ala.

Associated Press

topped 200 mph in the first session. The engine makers approached NASCAR and said attrition was going to be an issue, so NASCAR made a midday addition of a 1-inch wicker strip to the top of the spoiler before final practice.

Ryan Newman then hit 204.157 mph, logging the speed as he led a single-file group of cars through the draft to another pack.

Newman has taken many a trip through the air at Talladega and told NBC Sports speeds were "way too fast. We've established that over the last 10 years. That's when cars get airborne."

It felt ominous headed toward the green flag. But O'Donnell said NASCAR staunchly believed it had landed on a combination that would make for very

good racing. In the end, Chase Elliott got his first win of the season — first for mangled Chevrolet, first for Hendrick Motorsports — in an action-packed event in which the 38 lead changes were the most since 2014. There were 10,650 passes under green and early concern over dangerously fast closing rates instead allowed drivers to pull off bold and brazen moves. □

POPOVICH

Continued from Page 17

There is little chance Popovich ends up anywhere but San Antonio, where he has enjoyed unprecedented success. His desire to return was apparent during an 18-minute news conference to wrap up a season that ended with a loss to the Denver Nuggets in Game 7 of their first-round series.

Popovich has 1,245 wins, third-most in NBA history behind Don Nelson and Lenny Wilkens, and is one of five coaches to win five NBA championships. He will coach USA Basketball in the FIBA World Cup in China this summer, and will coach the Americans in the Tokyo Olympics next summer should the team qualify.

The Spurs have reached the playoffs the last 22 seasons, a streak that ties for the longest in NBA history. Many doubted the Spurs would continue that streak

this season with all the turmoil and turnover.

A year ago, Kawhi Leonard played in only nine games while nursing a right thigh injury. Reportedly upset with how his rehabilitation was handled, Leonard forced his way out of San Antonio in the offseason and was sent to Toronto along with Danny Green in a trade for DeMar DeRozan and Jakob Poeltl.

The Spurs also lost Manu Ginobili to retirement and Tony Parker left the team in free agency along with veteran Kyle Anderson.

"I didn't know what to expect, to be honest," Popovich said. "I didn't know how this group would respond to that kind of adversity, but they showed us a lot in continuing with the program and trying to do what we wanted them to do. So, that was very impressive to me."

San Antonio had eight new players on its roster this season, the most in Popovich's

tenure. That turned out to be one of the highlights for the veteran coach.

"It was kind of one of the more enjoyable seasons because you got to see people develop," Popovich said.

If that wasn't enough to overcome, the Spurs also lost starting point guard Dejounte Murray to a season-ending knee injury in the preseason and his replacement, Derrick White, missed the first month with a knee injury.

In one four-game stretch, the Spurs lost three games by 30-plus points; in Popovich's first 1,758 regular-season games as coach, the Spurs had only lost by 30-plus five total times. Of course, they also won five straight games by 25-plus points for the first time under Popovich and ended up seventh in the Western Conference as DeRozan and veteran LaMarcus Aldridge helped carry the team's young roster.



San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich sits on the bench before facing the Denver Nuggets in Game 7 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Saturday, April 27, 2019, in Denver.

Associated Press

"I think that when we all reflect on the season, they achieved a lot more than a lot of people gave them credit for having the opportunity to achieve," Popovich said. San Antonio was able to reach the postseason while also developing young players like White, Poeltl and Bryn Forbes on

the court and prepping rookies Lonnie Walker IV, Chimezie Metu and Drew Eubanks in the G League.

"It's the beginning of a new culture for a new group," Popovich said. "So, we'll have a little bit of corporate knowledge going into next season and they'll show that, I think." □

MoviePass founder's next act: Watch ads, see free movies

By ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stacy Spikes co-founded MoviePass, a subscription service that lets you frequent movie theaters for a set monthly fee. After MoviePass sold off a majority stake in 2017, Spikes watched as the new owners quickly expanded, only to find the cost of all those movie tickets too high to sustain.

Now Spikes has a new idea: free movie tickets for people who first agree to watch ads. His new startup is called PreShow.

Spikes spoke with The Associated Press recently about the state of movie theaters. Questions and answers have been edited for length and clarity.

Q: Why change moviegoing?

A: If you do not evolve with the times, you will wake up and find you're like a record store or a video (rental) store. To keep cinema at the forefront, we need to be innovating.

Q: You get a free movie ticket after watching at least 15 minutes of video



In this March 26, 2019, photo Stacy Spikes, co-founder of MoviePass, poses for a photo in New York.

Associated Press

ads on your phone. What's to stop me from just leaving the ads running on a table?

A: We had to build in facial recognition so that you can tell that the person actually watched. If I look away, it can detect that. It'll pause if it doesn't see me for five seconds.

Q: Whoa, that sounds creepy.

A: Nothing is recording. It's a motion detector. There is nothing leaving your device, nothing stored. (All advertisers get) is this many people watched these spots.

Q: How are longer ads better than 30-second spots?

A: You actually get the time to go into a story. It should feel like you're being

entertained versus you're sitting through painful ads. The more time you spend focused on an activity or brand, the more you're likely to spend your money.

Q: How's starting PreShow different from MoviePass?

A: We were trying to figure certain things out, like how much do you charge and how much are they going

to eat (use the service)? There were people going every day, and there were people who maybe didn't use the service. There were regions behaving differently. The ad businesses are more straightforward. Facebook and others have figured it out.

Q: With MoviePass, you took a loss as you covered the full cost of movie tickets in most cases. Will you also be subsidizing tickets with PreShow?

A: We're expecting to run this business such that you're paying your way (through ads) to go to the movies. The way to do that is to let in a few people, and you have certain advertisers to start, and you grow over time.

The investment community wants smarter businesses. There's not the same tolerance to, "Oh, we'll figure it out."

Q: What advice do you have for others starting their own businesses?

A: Do something that you know you love so much, you're your own kind of expert at it. □



In this Tuesday, April 3, 2018 file photo, a trading post sports the Spotify logo on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

Streaming service Spotify hits 100 million paid user mark

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Music streaming service Spotify said Monday that its paying subscribers have reached 100 million for the first time, up 32% on the year and almost twice the latest figures for Apple Music.

The Stockholm-based company called the figure,

which was reached during the first three months of 2019, "an important milestone."

The growth was driven, among other things, by "a better-than-planned promotion in the U.S. and Canada." Spotify said it had reached "the high end of our guidance range of 97-100 million."

By comparison, archival Apple Music had about 50 million paying subscribers at the end of 2018, the latest available figures. Apple

is expected to release new figures with its earnings report on Tuesday.

The number of Spotify's total monthly users, which includes those who do not pay a monthly subscription fee but use the service with intermittent ads, rose to 217 million in the first quarter.

The strong growth in its user base led to a 33% rise in revenue, to 1.5 billion euros (\$1.7 billion). Yet like many tech companies focusing on building market share, the company continued to lose money, reporting an operating loss of 47 million euros.

Spotify says that voice speakers like Google Home and Alexa are a "critical area of growth" and is looking to invest more in podcasts to supplement its offering of music. □

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Fed likely to underscore a message: No rates hikes in 2019

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve this week will likely reinforce a theme that has cheered consumers and investors since the start of the year: No interest rates hikes are likely anytime soon.

The prospect of continued low rates is keeping borrowing costs low for households and companies. It is helping drive record highs in the stock market. It is supplying fuel for a U.S. economy that's growing steadily but fairly modestly and until recently was seen as facing the risk of a recession. And with inflation remaining unusually mild, the Fed is seen as able to stay on the sidelines through year's end and perhaps beyond. The Fed will likely express that belief in a statement when its latest policy meeting ends Wednesday and in a news conference that Chairman Jerome Powell will hold afterward.

"The Fed will recognize the brighter economic outlook, but there will be no change at this meeting," said David Jones, an economist and author of books about the Fed.

The generally brighter view of the economy and the stock market represents a sharp rebound from the final months of 2018, when concerns about a possible global recession and fear of further Fed rate increases had darkened the eco-



In this March 20, 2019, file photo a screen on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shows the rate decision of the Federal Reserve.

Associated Press

omic picture. Stock prices tumbled in the final quarter of the year, especially after the Fed in December not only raised rates for the fourth time in 2018 but suggested that it was likely to keep tightening credit this year.

Yet beginning in January, the Fed engineered an abrupt reversal, suggesting that it was finished raising rates for now and might even act this year to support rather than restrain the economy. In characterizing its stance, the Fed's new watchword became "patient." And investors have responded by delivering a major stock market rally. The market gains have also been fed by improved

growth prospects in China and some other major economies and by the view that a trade war between the world's two biggest economies, the United States and China, is moving closer to a resolution.

On Friday, the government reported that the U.S. economy grew at a surprisingly strong 3.2% annual rate in the January-March quarter. It was the best performance for a first quarter in four years, and it far surpassed initial forecasts that annual growth could be as weak as 1% at the start of the year.

If economic prospects were to brighten further, could Fed officials rethink their plans to suspend fur-

ther rate hikes and perhaps resume tightening credit? Possibly. But investors don't seem to think so. According to data tracked by the CME Group, investors foresee zero probability that the Fed will raise rates anytime this year. And in fact, their bets indicate a roughly 64% likelihood that the Fed will cut rates before year's end. One factor in that dovish view is that the economy might not be quite as robust as the latest economic figures suggest. The first quarter's healthy 3.2% annual growth rate was pumped up by some temporary factors — from a surge in restocking of companies' inventories to a narrowing of the U.S. trade deficit —

that are expected to reverse themselves. If so, this would diminish the pace of growth and likely hold down inflation.

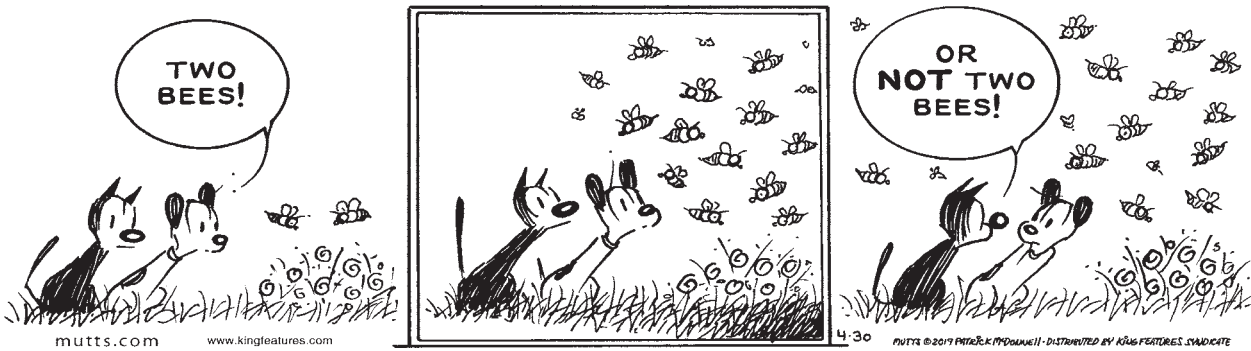
"We are still confronting a global slowdown, with 70% of the global economy slowing," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at Grant Thornton.

Indeed, for all of 2019, growth is expected to total around 2.2%, down from last year's 2.7% gain, as the effects of the 2017 tax cuts and billions of dollars in increased government spending fade. At the same time, the Fed is still struggling to achieve one of its mandates: To produce inflation of roughly 2%. On Monday, the government reported that the Fed's preferred inflation gauge rose just 1.5% in March from 12 months earlier. Many analysts say they think the Fed won't resume raising rates until inflation hits or exceeds its 2% target.

Too-low inflation is seen as an obstacle because it tends to depress consumer spending, the economy's main fuel, as people delay purchases in anticipation of flat or even lower prices. It also raise the inflation-adjusted cost of a loan.

"They will express concerns about the low inflation numbers," Sung Won Sohn, finance and economics professor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, predicts of Fed officials this week. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			1		8			
		2	9	7	6	5		
9								1
1	6						4	5
	4			3			1	
5	8						7	9
7								2
		5	6	1	3	8		
			8		7			

Difficulty Level ★★ 4/30

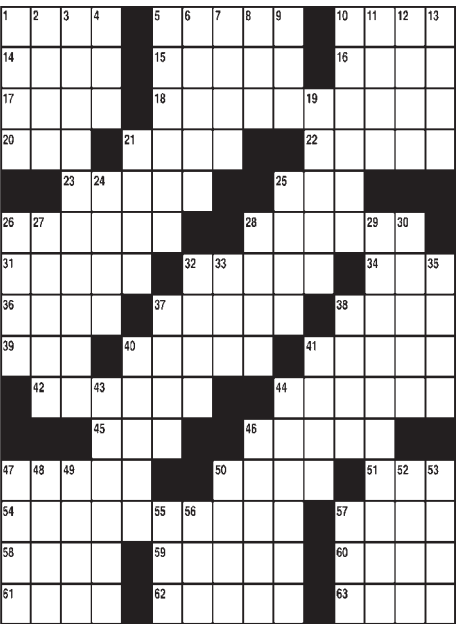
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

5	7	8	4	6	1	9	3	2
1	9	2	3	7	5	8	4	6
3	6	4	9	2	8	7	1	5
7	4	3	6	1	2	5	9	8
2	1	5	8	9	4	6	7	3
6	8	9	7	5	3	4	2	1
8	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	9
4	5	6	1	3	9	2	8	7
9	3	7	2	8	6	1	5	4

ACROSS

- 1 Cooking herb
- 5 __ up; go separate ways
- 10 Chances
- 14 Signed an IOU
- 15 Remembered Texas mission
- 16 Boyfriend
- 17 "A __ home is his castle"
- 18 Behead
- 20 Pupil's place
- 21 "Queen for __" of old TV
- 22 Plato & Carvey
- 23 Became furious
- 25 Muhammad __
- 26 Oral
- 28 Goings-on
- 31 Place of relief
- 32 Rocker or recliner
- 34 Shoot carefully
- 36 Twirl
- 37 Melon or pumpkin
- 38 Suffix for wash or pay
- 39 Word attached to meal or cake



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 4/30/19

- 4 Sullivan & others
 - 5 Depress
 - 6 Beg
 - 7 Like a bride's veil
 - 8 " __ Believer"; Monkees song
 - 9 Shirt or blouse
 - 10 Acquire
 - 11 Singer & actor Martin
 - 12 __ entry processor; computer job
 - 13 Takes to court
 - 19 Lazybones
 - 21 Dark __; period in history
 - 24 Similar
 - 25 Eager
 - 26 Average
 - 27 Dads
 - 28 All __; listening
 - 29 Recipe amount
 - 30 For the birds
 - 32 Comfy
 - 33 Color
 - 35 Soldiers' eating area
 - 37 __ berserk; freaks out
- DOWN
- 1 Partial amount
 - 2 Out of town
 - 3 Opposite of stinginess

Monday's Puzzle Solved

S	L	E	D	S	L	O	P	S	L	O	W
P	A	I	R	S	T	O	U	R	C	O	V
O	N	S	E	T	A	T	R	O	P	H	I
T	E	E	A	I	R	G	L	E	N	N	S
N	A	I	L	S	R	A	M				
A	W	H	I	R	L	D	E	C	E	I	T
C	O	O	L	S	W	H	O	S	E	M	O
T	O	W	S	R	E	E	L	S	S	P	A
S	E	E	T	E	A	S	E	L	O	O	S
D	R	A	W	E	R	R	O	A	S	T	S
P	E	N	R	I	S	K	S				
C	A	R	P	E	T	U	P	S	I	D	O
U	N	A	L	T	E	R	E	D	E	B	B
B	O	R	E	R	E	A	D	S	A	L	A
A	X	E	S	S	P	R	Y	H	E	N	S

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Cover-up: Students deck out dome with Captain America shield

Associated Press
CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Student pranksters at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have struck again, drawing inspiration from America's hottest movie.

MIT students over the week-end draped the university's signature Great Dome with a giant cloth version of Captain America's red, white and blue shield. Their efforts drew a Twitter "Very cool!" from actor Chris Evans, the Massachusetts native who plays Captain America in "Avengers: Endgame."

The shield went up Saturday night and was taken down Monday morning. MIT students have for generations centered similar pranks, which they call "hacks," on the dome.

A realistic police cruiser was placed on the dome in 1994. In 1999, it was decked out to look like R2D2, the robot from "Star Wars." "These are things you hear about when you first come to MIT." □

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April 30

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May 1

Freedom of the Seas

Monarch

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Major emperor penguin breeding ground gone barren since 2016

By SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the past three years, virtually nothing has hatched at Antarctica's second biggest breeding grounds for emperor penguins and the start of this year is looking just as bleak, a new study found.

Usually 15,000 to 24,000 breeding pairs of emperor penguins flock yearly to a breeding site at Halley Bay, considered a safe place that should stay cold this century despite global warming. But almost none have been there since 2016, according to a study in Wednesday's Antarctic Science.

The breeding pair population has increased significantly at a nearby breeding ground, but the study's author said it is nowhere near the amount missing at Halley Bay.

"We've never seen a breeding failure on a scale like this in 60 years," said study author Phil Trathan, head of conservation biology at the British Antarctic Survey. "It's unusual to have a complete breeding failure in such a big colony."

Normally about 8% of the world's emperor penguin



This 2010 photo provided by the British Antarctic Survey shows emperor penguins and chicks at the Snow Hill Island colony, on the northern Antarctic Peninsula.

Associated Press

population breeds at Halley Bay, Trathan said. Black-and-white with yellow ears and breasts, em-

peror penguins are the largest penguin species, weighing up to 88 pounds (40 kilograms) and living

about 20 years. Pairs breed in the harshest winter conditions with the male incubating their egg.

Scientists blame the sharp decline on climate and weather conditions that break apart the "fast ice" — sea ice that's connected to the land — where the emperor penguins stay to breed. They incubate their eggs and tend to their chicks — one per pair — on ice. After breeding and tending to the chicks, the penguins move to open sea.

In 2016 and 2017, there was no breeding in Halley Bay and last year there was just a bit, the study found.

The nearby Dawson-Lambton breeding area, which had been home to a couple thousand pairs, increased to 11,117 pairs in 2017 and 14,612 pairs in 2018, the study said.

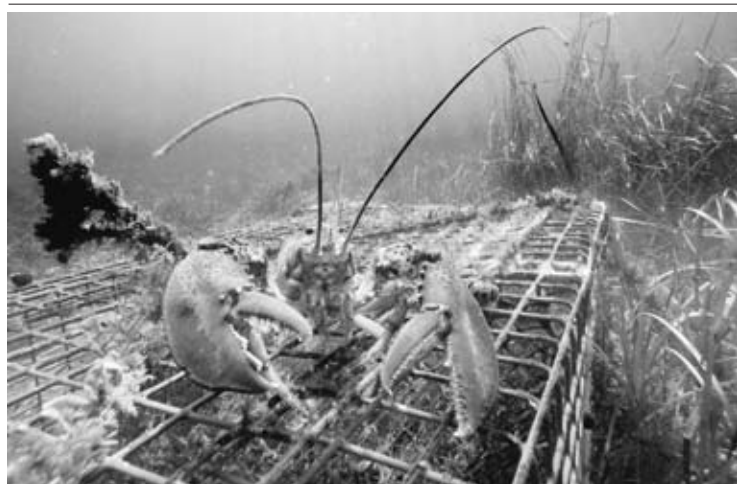
While that's encouraging, it doesn't make up for all that was lost at Halley Bay, Trathan said. "Not everybody has gone to Dawson-Lambton yet," he said.

What's troubling isn't that part of the colony has moved to Dawson-Lambton, it is that scientists thought of Halley Bay as a climate change refuge in

one of the coldest areas of the continent "where in the future you expect to always have emperors," Trathan said.

David Ainley, a marine ecologist and penguin expert at the consulting firm H.T. Harvey & Associates, worried that some people will be more alarmed than they need to be because many of the penguins didn't disappear, but just moved. While not as scary as it may sound initially, with climate change "long term, it's another question as alternate breeding sites likely will become harder to find," said Ainley, who was not part of the study. The study makes sense, and sometimes dramatic environmental change can cause a breeding failure like this, said Stephanie Jenouvrier, a penguin expert at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution who wasn't part of the study.

Trathan said a super strong El Nino — a natural cyclical warming of the central Pacific that changes weather worldwide — melted sea ice more than usual and exposed the fast ice to wind and waves, making the breeding home less stable. □



In this Sept. 5, 2018 file photo, a lobster walks over the top of a lobster trap off the coast of Biddeford, Maine. In this Sept. 5, 2018 file photo, a lobster walks over the top of a lobster trap off the coast of Biddeford, Maine.

Associated Press

A daunting task begins: Reducing lobster gear to save whales

By PATRICK WHITTLE

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)

— Fishing managers on the East Coast began the daunting process Monday of implementing new restrictions on lobster fishing that are designed to protect a vanishing species of whale.

A team organized by the federal government recommended last week that the number of vertical trap lines in the water be reduced by about half. The lines have entrapped and drowned the North Atlantic right whale, which number a little more than 400 and have declined by dozens this decade.

The interstate Atlantic States Marine Fisheries

Commission met Monday outside Washington to discuss the implementation of the new rules, which are designed to reduce serious injuries and deaths among whales by 60 percent.

The rules will be developed in the coming months and could have a huge effect on the lucrative fishery. Some individual lobstermen place several miles of trap lines in the water, meaning hundreds of miles will have to be removed in total to meet the goal. "States are committed to taking on the reductions," said Toni Kerns, interstate fisheries management program director for the commission, after the meeting. "This is a very complex issue, and it will be challenging, but they will

find a way to make it work." Exactly how long it will take to implement the new rules is unclear at the moment, Kerns said.

It also remains to be seen whether the commission or states will take the lead in implementing the rules, she said.

Colleen Coogan, who coordinates the federal government team designed to protect the whales, said during the meeting that cooperating with Canadian authorities is also going to be very important. Canadian fishermen harvest the same species of lobster, and the endangered whales also swim in Canadian waters.

"We've set a pretty high bar," Coogan said. □



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Ahead of 'The Irishman,' Scorsese and De Niro look back

By JAKE COYLE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Ahead of their much-anticipated and most recent collaboration, "The Irishman," Martin Scorsese and Robert De Niro convened at the Tribeca Film Festival to look back on their long partnership together.

The talk, staged Sunday at New York's Beacon Theatre, gave De Niro, co-founder of the festival, one of his most unlikely roles to date: interviewer. With interstitial clips chosen by Scorsese from the director's filmography, the famously terse actor didn't so much pepper or prod the filmmaker as occasionally announce it was time to discuss "the next one."

But if the conversation relied largely on Scorsese, it still offered a window into their long-running collaboration. Begun with 1973's "Mean Streets" and stretching over nine feature films, it's one of the most famous director-actor pairs in cin-



Actor Robert De Niro, left, and director Martin Scorsese attend "Tribeca Talks - Director Series - Martin Scorsese with Robert De Niro" during the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival at the Beacon Theatre on Sunday, April 28, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

ema. One of Scorsese's other regulars, Leonardo DiCaprio, was among the full crowd, eager to see the legendary New York duo together.

"The Irishman," which Netflix will release this fall, is their

latest gangster film together, following "Mean Streets," "Goodfellas" and "Casino." It's based on the 2003 book "I Heard You Paint Houses" by Charles Brandt, which recounts the life of mob hitman Frank "The Irish-

man" Sheeran (played by De Niro). Al Pacino plays Jimmy Hoffa, whose disappearance some have traced to Sheeran.

"It's in the milieu of the pictures we've done together and are known for, in a

sense, but I hope from a different vantage point," said Scorsese. "Years have gone by and we see things in a special way, I hope."

Though its release is months away, "The Irishman" — one of Netflix's biggest-budgeted films yet — has already become the new flash point of the ongoing battle between Netflix and movie theaters. The major chains have refused to play releases that don't abide to the traditional exclusive 90-day theatrical window. Netflix has said that doesn't serve the interests of its millions of members.

How Scorsese will navigate those divisions is being closely watched. The 76-year-old filmmaker is among the most respected in movies, and has long been a devoted advocate of film history and film preservation. The director didn't wade into those issues Sunday, but he spoke about how "Irishman" reverberates with themes that have long propelled him. □

400-year-old Bible stolen from US is found in Netherlands

By RAMESH SANTANAM

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A 17th century Geneva Bible, one of the hundreds of rare books authorities said were stolen from a Pittsburgh library as part of a 20-year-long theft scheme, is back home.

The Bible, published in 1615, was traced to the American Pilgrim Museum in Leiden, about 45 miles (70 kilometers) from Amsterdam in the Netherlands, said FBI agent Robert Jones.

It was among more than 300 rare books, maps, plate books, atlases and more that were discovered missing from the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh last year. A former archivist at the library and a rare book dealer are accused of stealing books valued at more than \$8 million.

The Bible "is more than a piece of evidence," Jones said Thursday at a news conference in Pittsburgh. "I am happy to say it has finally made its way back



FBI supervisory special agent Shawn Brokos shows the recovered 1615 Breeches Edition Bible during a news conference, Thursday, April 25, 2019, in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

to its rightful owner here in Pittsburgh."

There are several similar Bibles, Jones said afterward. "From a dollar-figure sense, it is not priceless," he said. "From a history perspective,

it is priceless."

The Dutch museum had paid \$1,200 for the Bible, District Attorney Stephen Zappala Jr. said.

The first edition of the Geneva Bible was published

in 1560. This particular edition, published in London four years after the first King James version, is similar to a Bible known to have been brought over by the Pilgrims in 1620, Jones said.

The FBI will hand over the Bible to Allegheny County prosecutors, who will return it to the library, Zappala Jr. said.

After charges were filed last year, Zappala said, the director of the Dutch museum contacted police in The Hague and the Carnegie Library, which in turn contacted the FBI in Pittsburgh.

The FBI in The Hague worked with the museum and then shipped the Bible to FBI offices in Pittsburgh, said FBI agent Shawn Brokos.

Wearing blue latex gloves, she displayed the Bible, carefully opening its weathered pages.

The FBI hopes news of the recovery of this Bible will prompt others to look at their collections for any possible items stolen from the Pittsburgh library. "Some probably are in private collections," Jones said.

Prosecutors in Pittsburgh have so far recovered 18 of the books stolen from the library, Zappala said. □

New doc shows how Beyoncé changed Coachella, forever



This image released by Netflix shows Beyoncé in a scene from her documentary "Homecoming: A Film by Beyoncé." Associated Press

By MESFIN FEKADU
Associated Press

Beyoncé is extremely private, and only lets you know what she wants you to know, when she wants you to know it — typically, in a surprise post be it on her website or Instagram. But throughout the years, she's slightly cracked open her door to reveal parts of her life and personality — apart from what she gives through strong singing and extraordinary dance moves — to help remind us that though she is epic and flawless, she is still mortal.

"HOMECOMING: A film by Beyoncé," which premiered Wednesday on Netflix, captures the human side of the superstar singer with behind-the-scenes, intimate moments of a mother, wife and artist tirelessly working on what's already become one of most iconic musical performances of all-time: Beyoncé's headlining show at the 2018 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival.

The performance marked the first time a black woman headlined the famed festival and made Beyoncé just the third woman to score the gig, behind Bjork and Lady Gaga. Beyoncé took on the role seriously — as she does all live perfor-

mances — giving the audience a rousing, terrific and new show highlighted by a full marching band, majorette dancers, steppers and more that is the norm at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

The film takes it a step further to showcase what was happening to get to the historic moment: you see a mother bouncing back from giving birth to twins via an emergency C-section; an African American woman embracing her family's history and paying tribute to black college culture and honoring black art; and the world's No. 1 pop star defying the odds yet again and pushing herself to new heights, creating an even wider space between herself and whoever is No. 2.

Simply put, Beyoncé changed Coachella — forever — and performing after her is like trying to out-ace Serena Williams or dunk better than Michael Jordan: You won't win.

Woven into the film are audio soundbites from popular figures to help narrate the story: Nina Simone speaks about blackness, Maya Angelou talks about truth, and Tessa Thompson and Danai Gurira explain the importance of seeing

people who look like you on large screens.

Beyoncé speaks, too, saying that she dreamed of attending an HBCU, though she explains: "My college was Destiny's Child."

She also says the importance of her Coachella performance was to bring "our culture to Coachella" and highlight "everyone that had never seen themselves represented."

So many people were represented during those performances last April — her stage was packed with about 200 performers, from dancers to singers to band and orchestra players. Beyoncé kicked off the performance dressed like an African queen, walking up the stage as the jazzy, soulful big band sound of New Orleans is played. After letting her dancers and backing band shine, she emerges again, this time dressed down — like a studious, eager, hopeful college student.

The musical direction and song selection flows effortlessly and was purposely crafted to tell a story: the first song is 2003's "Crazy In Love," a massively successful No. 1 hit and her first apart from Destiny's Child. Young, gifted and black, indeed. □

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AVENGERS: ENDGAME

PH MON-FRI 4:05 | 4:35 | 7:50 | 8:20
SAT-SUN 12:50 | 4:05 | 4:35 | 7:50 | 8:20

PH MON-THU 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20
FRI 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20 | 10:30
SAT 12:50 | 3:05 | 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20 | 10:30
SUN 12:50 | 3:05 | 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20

PBP MON-FRI 4:55 | 8:40
SAT-SUN 1:10 | 4:55 | 8:40

PBP CXC MON-SUN 3:45 | 7:30

PBP MON-THU 6:30 | 10:10
FRI 6:30 | 10:10
SAT 2:45 | 6:30 | 10:10
SUN 2:45 | 6:30

SPANISH MON-FRI 4:55 | 8:40
SAT-SUN 1:10 | 4:55 | 8:40

LEO ALDANA | DANIELA ALVARADO

SOLTERAS INDISPONIBLES

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PBP MON-SUN 6:15 | 9:10

LINDA CARDELLINI | RAYMOND CRUZ

THE CURSE OF LA LLORONA

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30
FRI 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:45
SAT 1:45 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:45
SUN 1:45 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30

PBP MON-THU 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35
FRI 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35 | 11:50
SAT 2:50 | 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35 | 11:50
SUN 2:50 | 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35

PBP MON-THU & SUN 8:35
FRI-SAT 8:35 | 10:50

ZACHARY LEVI | MICHELLE BORTH

SHAZAM!

PH MON-SUN 9:20

PBP MON-FRI 5:45 | 9:20
SAT-SUN 2:55 | 5:45

CHRISY METZ | TOPHER GRACE

BREAKTHROUGH

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-FRI 4:00 | 6:40
SAT-SUN 1:20 | 4:00 | 6:40

PBP MON-SUN 9:15

REGINA HALL | ISSA RAE

Little

PBP MON-FRI 4:15 | 6:45
SAT-SUN 1:45 | 4:15 | 6:45

COLIN FARRELL | MICHAEL KEATON

DUMBO

PBP MON-FRI 3:45
SAT-SUN 1:15 | 3:45

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Josh Ritter's 'Fever Breaks' is especially engaging



This cover image released by Pytheas Recordings/Thirty Tigers shows "Fever Breaks," a release by Josh Ritter.

Associated Press

By PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press

Josh Ritter, "Fever Breaks" (Pytheas Recordings/Thirty Tigers)

Josh Ritter's "Fever Breaks" is

a work of stacked marvels, the result of an auspicious collaboration with Jason Isbell — who also produced — and his band, the 400 Unit.

In places raw, chilling and emphatic, while sensitive and compassionate in others, the 10 songs cover murder, love and politics while ruminating on the wonders and burdens of our existence and its expiry date.

Opener "Ground Don't Want Me" is a brisk-paced story of murder and a frustrated search for rest, if not redemption. It is followed by "Old Black Magic," where piles of guitars help illustrate the blinding, con-

fused environment — "And I can't see the lighthouse/ And the lighthouse can't scream."

An unrelenting acoustic guitar underscores the intensity of "On the Water," which urges its target to make their long-distance relationship an intimate one, while the thirsting "I Still Love You (Now and Then)" recalls an old flame who is far from extinguished in his heart.

Protest songs have benefited from the age of social media — which has expanded their reach — while also having to overcome short attention spans and sensory overload. □

'Children of a Lesser God' writer Mark Medoff dies at 79

By MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

Mark Medoff, a provocative playwright whose "Children of a Lesser God" won Tony and Olivier awards and whose screen adaptation of his play earned an Oscar nomination, has died in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He was 79.

Medoff died Tuesday in a hospice surrounded by family, according to his daughter, Jessica Bunchman. He had been battling both multiple myeloma, a cancer, and renal failure, she said Wednesday in a family statement.

Medoff wrote 30 plays and wrote, produced or directed 19 movies. He found his greatest success with "Children of a Lesser God," the tale of a troubled love affair between a speech teacher and a deaf woman who struggle to overcome the communications gap between their two cultures.

Phyllis Frelich won a Tony in 1980 for her Broadway portrayal of Sarah Norman, the deaf woman at the heart of the play, which ran for almost 900 performances. It was later made into a movie, which won an Academy Award for actress Marlee Matlin, who co-starred opposite William Hurt.

Medoff was a caring adviser to many in the business, according to the statement.



In this April 8, 2004 file photo, playwright Mark Medoff, left, and actress Phyllis Frelich pose for a photo in New York.

Associated Press

"He had a way of making every creative heart with whom he worked feel as if their work, or their part in his work, was the single most important thing to him in the moment. In turn, hundreds of writers, actors, directors and creatives all over the world consider Mark Medoff a mentor," the statement said.

Matlin tweeted on Wednesday: "Mark Medoff, the brilliant mind behind the Tony Award winning play, 'Children Of A Lesser God,' has passed at 79. He insisted and fought the studio that the role be played by a deaf actor; I would not be here as an Oscar winner if

it weren't for him. RIP Dear Mark."

A Broadway revival last year of "Children of a Lesser God" starred Joshua Jackson and Lauren Ridloff, a former Miss Deaf America who earned a Tony nomination.

Medoff's work often tackled social issues, from animal testing and AIDS in the play "Prymate," to American myths and disorders in the Obie-winning stage work "When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder" to poverty in India in his screenplay for the 1992 film "City of Joy." His 2015 play, "Marilee and Baby Lamb: The Assassination of an American

Goddess," is about the last days of Marilyn Monroe.

"Everything I do probably starts more from a social-issue impulse than anything else," the playwright told The Associated Press in 2004. "I went to a psychologist when I was 18 or 19 and he said I was the first kid he'd ever met who was rebelling against a happy childhood. So when I started writing, I began to appropriate social issues and quickly roped myself out of my angst." Medoff was inspired to write "Children of a Lesser God" after meeting Frelich and her husband, Robert Steinberg, a lighting designer. "I told him

there were no roles for deaf actresses," Frelich recalled. "He said, 'OK, I'll write a play for you.' He did. He went home and wrote 'Children of a Lesser God.' He wanted to write a good play."

Medoff was co-founder of the American Southwest Theatre Company and head of the Department of Theatre Arts for nine years at New Mexico State University, where he taught for years. He helped form the Creative Media Institute for Film & Digital Arts in 2005.

"When the Creative Media Institute was just getting going, Mark told the faculty, 'Look, we can sit around and talk about how to teach people to make movies, or we can just go make movies,' which reflected his philosophy across life," said Amy Lanasa, a friend who now heads the institute, in the family statement. "Why sit around talking about it when you can get up and take action or create something?" Medoff's other works include the plays "The Wager," "The Hand of Its Enemy," "The Heart Outright," "The Majestic Kid" and the screenplay for the HBO movie thriller "Apology." He also penned the 1978 Chuck Norris action film, "Good Guys Wear Black" and the black comedy "Refuge" starring Linda Hamilton in 2010. □

Metropolitan Opera fetes Placido Domingo golden anniversary

By VERENA DOBNIK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Placido Domingo has starred on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera for a whopping 50 years - and is still singing, amazingly, at age 78.

On Sunday, the Met literally turned the tables and threw a dinner on the same stage for the Spaniard's golden anniversary. Guests included soprano Renee Fleming and the company's new music director, Yannick Nezet-Seguin.

"I have been lucky with a healthy throat and the passion for what I do," Domingo said, standing by his table in the middle of the

stage before the empty 4,000-seat house, surrounded by dinner guests and joking, "for once, I'm here and I don't have to sing!" He noted that the international competition he started, Operalia, means that in just about every opera house in the world, he encounters its winners who have become stars he still mentors.

Nezet-Seguin, a French-Canadian about half Domingo's age, remembers conducting the tenor some years ago "and every day he was the first arriving to work, he was coaching younger artists, coming to rehearsals, wanting to

learn; he was always the most respectful, the most loving and passionate person in the room."

In terms of vocal longevity, he added, "he's a miracle." Domingo is currently appearing in his 52nd main role at the Met - as Germont in Verdi's "La Traviata" - among 151 global career roles, and counting.

The lifelong tenor now sings as a baritone, appearing in top theaters. On Sunday, he remembered his Met debut a half century ago, when he was suddenly called to replace an ailing singer. Domingo shouted back, "Well, you'll be hearing me tonight!" □



Tenor Placido Domingo poses for a photo against the backdrop of himself as a younger singer as Verdi's "Otello," Sunday, April 28, 2019, at the Metropolitan Opera, in New York.

Associated Press

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